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HISTORICAL
AND
DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH

OF

SONOMA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA,

BY

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HISTORY OF SONOMA COUNTY, CAL.

BOUNDARIES.

SONOMA county lies twenty-five miles north of San Francisco, a little west of a due north line. It is bounded on the south by the bay of San Francisco and Marin county, the latter county a peninsula lying between the bay and the ocean; on the west by the Pacific ocean; on the north by Mendocino county, and on the east by Lake and Napa counties. Its sea-coast front, following the sinuosities of the shore line, is about sixty miles. Its average length, from north to south, is about fifty miles, and its average width is about twenty-five miles. Its area is, in round numbers, eight hundred and fifty thousand acres. The district of Sonoma originally included all the vast territory lying between the Sacramento river and the Pacific ocean. At the first session of the legislature the northern line was fixed along the fortieth parallel of latitude to the summit of the Mayacmas range of mountains, and thence south to the bay, including all the present county of Mendocino, and a portion of Napa county. In 1856, Napa county having been previously formed, the limits of Sonoma were contracted to the present boundary lines by the segregation of Mendocino county.

A glance at the map of the State herewith published, will show the great advantages of the location of the county of Sonoma. It fronts on the bay of San Francisco, known in its northern extremity as the bay of San Pablo, once called the bay of Sonoma. Two estuaries lead from the bay inland into the county of Sonoma, navigable at high tide for steamers and sail-vessels of considerable size. The latter, with a fair wind and tide, convey the produce of the county, at the current freight-rates, in a few hours to the wharves in San Francisco. In addition, there are a number of shipping points along the coast, of which more will be said hereafter.

Sonoma county is not so fully known as portions of this State with less advantages of climate, soil, and productions; because it is off the great central line of travel, which follows the Sacramento Valley to tide-water, thence to San Francisco, and turns southward. It has been hidden, as it were, behind the Coast Range of mountains, which separates it from the great Sacramento Valley. From San Francisco, through the Sacramento Valley, you pass along the east foothills of the Coast Range; from the same place to Sonoma county you pass along the west face of the same range. The trend of the coast is northwesterly, and the county of Sonoma lies almost entirely west of the city of San Francisco. Lying west of the greater part of the State, may account for the fact that about one-third more rain falls here than in San Francisco, and fully one-half more than in the counties south and east of the bay of San Francisco. There has never been a season in the history of the county when there was not enough rain to make a crop. There have been years of drouth in other parts of the State; but in this section in those seasons the crops were better than an average.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The main Coast Range, of which Monte Diablo is a well known and conspicuous peak, continues northwesterly from Carquinez straits, and forms the water-shed between the Sacramento valley and the coast country. This range passes through Napa county, which bounds Sonoma on the east, and into and through the northeast corner of Sonoma county, reaching an elevation above the sea level of three thousand six hundred feet. The highest mountain in the county is Geyser peak, so called from its proximity to the Geyser springs. This peak is three thousand four hundred and seventy feet above the sea level. It is a prominent landmark, visible from nearly all parts of the county. The Geyser springs, a well-known California wonder, and a number of valuable quick-silver mines, are located in this part of the county. From Geyser peak almost all of the county of Sonoma may be seen, and the Pacific ocean, beyond the fair land on which it borders.

A number of valleys extend southwesterly from the main chain of the Coast Range, described above, which widen gradually, and front on the northern shore of the bay of San Pablo. These valleys are separated from each other by spurs from the Main Range, running parallel with the valleys. First, on the east, we have the valley of Napa, which bounds Sonoma county on that side; then west of, and nearly parallel with it, Sonoma valley, from which the county takes its name; it forms, however, a very small portion of the county of Sonoma. West of Sonoma valley, and separated from it by a high range of hills, is the largest, most fertile, and most populous of all the valleys west of the great Sacramento plain. It fronts on the north shore of San Pablo bay, and extends from the bay shore inland for about sixty miles, and has an average width of ten to twelve miles. The lower or most southerly section of this great valley is called Petaluma—the central portion is called Santa Rosa, and the most northerly portion is called Russian River valley. The three may be said to form one great valley, through which the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad runs, from its terminus on tide-water, for sixty miles, without a cut more than ten feet deep on the entire line.

The four great valleys which we have just mentioned are the chief topographical features of Sonoma county. The hills separating Sonoma valley from the great Central valley, terminate at Santa Rosa. About twenty-five miles from its bay-shore, Sonoma valley, having gradually narrowed, merges into the great Central valley. West of the Central valley lies the immediate coast country. The southern section of the coast country lying just north of Marin county is celebrated for its dairy products. The hills are rolling, destitute entirely of trees or brush, and covered with a rich sward of grass, kept green most of the year by its proximity to the ocean. This dairy-section extends nearly to Russian river; along that river and north of it to the county line, the country is densely timbered.

SMALLER VALLEYS.

In addition to the principal valleys we have described, there are others equally beautiful and fertile, and, though smaller, are well worthy of a description more in detail than the space at our command will permit. Alexander

valley, east of Healdsburg, is one of the most fertile and beautiful of the valleys of Sonoma county. It borders on the great bend made by Russian river before turning toward the sea. The land on the river, like all its bottom-land, is of unsurpassed fertility. The valley is settled by an intelligent and cultivated class of farmers, and takes its name from the first settler, Cyrus Alexander, who, in 1845, was superintendent of the Sotoyomi grant, and acquired title to the valley which now bears his name—once a portion of the grant. This valley is a part of the great Russian River valley, an arm of it extending to the eastward.

Knight's valley lies on the extreme eastern boundary of Sonoma county, at the foot of St. Helena mountain, one of the tallest and most beautiful peaks of the Mayacmas range. The valley includes about thirteen thousand acres, and was covered by a Spanish grant. It is now partly owned by a company, who keep a place of summer resort, and partly by Calvin Holmes, one of our oldest and most respected citizens. The scenery in Knight's valley embraces all the features characteristic of the county—groves of oaks in picturesque irregularity on the plain and in the foot-hills, walks and drives of natural beauty, far excelling anything that could be achieved by artificial means, no matter how lavishly money might be expended. One of the main roads leading to the Geyser springs passes through this valley. It was built by the celebrated Clark Foss, and his stages still run on the road. He has made his home in the valley, in which every comfort has been provided for himself and guests, that good taste and a liberal expenditure of money can command. No one should leave this coast without making a trip to the Geysers with Foss, which includes a stop at his elegant caravansary.

Dry Creek valley lies west of Russian River and north of Healdsburg. Its location may be seen on the map. The valley is about sixteen miles long, with an average width of two miles. The soil is all alluvial bottom, and is of matchless fertility—for wheat, corn, and staple products it is not equaled on the coast: and the hill-land on the border of the valley produces all kinds of fruit, being especially adapted to grape culture. The fine fruit farm of D. D. Phillips is situated in the centre of the valley.

Bennett valley, another of the smaller valleys of Sonoma, worthy of mention, lies south of the town of Santa Rosa, and east of the Santa Rosa valley. It has a length of eight miles, and an average width of four miles. It possesses all the features peculiar to the other parts of the county we have described. If it has any specialty it is for fruit and grape culture. The fine farm of James Adams, in Santa Rosa township, lies just in the mouth of Bennett valley, and also the beautiful home of Nelson Carr, who lives at the head of the valley. Near the centre is the celebrated vineyard of Isaac DeTurk, where he has lived for many years, and been extensively engaged in the manufacture of wine.

The Guillicos valley is in fact the upper part of Sonoma valley proper. It is one of the most beautiful places in California. It was originally granted to the wife of Don Juan Wilson, a famous sea-captain on this coast under the Mexican regime. He married into one of the native California families, and, though an Englishman by birth, he became a Mexican citizen, and was granted

the Guillicos valley. In 1850 it was purchased by William Hood, who subdivided and sold the greater part about ten years ago. He, however, retains his beautiful homestead at the foot of the Guillicos mountain, one of the most picturesque as well as one of the most valuable farms in California.

Green valley lies west of the Santa Rosa plains, on Green Valley creek, which flows north and empties into Russian river. The valley is twelve miles long, with an average width of three miles. The specialty of this valley is fruit culture—apples, pears, plums, prunes, peaches, cherries, table and raisin grapes. The very finest orchards of this county are in Green valley. The soil is adapted to the growth of all the staple crops, as well as fruit.

The valley of the Estero Americano, or Big valley, lies along a small stream falling into an estuary leading inland from the sea about seven miles, known as the Estero Americano. The towns of Bloomfield and Valley Ford are in this valley, and the narrow-gauge railroad crosses it. One hundred thousand sacks of potatoes are raised annually in the valley, and in the country north and south of it there are at least eight thousand milch-cows, producing during the season, per day, an average of a pound of butter each. The chief products are potatoes, butter, and cheese; but oats, wheat, and barley are also grown.

There are a number of smaller valleys, which space permits no more than mention: the Rincon valley, near Santa Rosa; Rural and Alpine valleys, on Mark West creek, and Blucher valley, west of the Santa Rosa plain.

To recapitulate: From the summit of Geyser peak we obtain a bird's-eye view of the whole country. At a glance we take in the great Central valley, through which the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad runs, from the bay shore to its terminus at Cloverdale. We can see the towns along the line of the road: Cloverdale, Geyserville, Healdsburg, Windsor, Fulton, Santa Rosa and Petaluma. The groves of oaks give to the landscape that park-like appearance peculiar to California scenery. It is a view upon which one might love to linger. A little east of south, Sonoma valley may be seen—and at the foot of St. Helena, a towering feature in this grand landscape, lies Knight's valley. The windings of Russian river, in its tortuous course through Alexander valley and across the plain, may be traced until it disappears in the timber region, over which the gilded waters of the Pacific may be seen, until sea and sky blend in the distance.

PRINCIPAL WATER COURSES.

Each of the valleys fronting on San Pablo bay have an estuary leading inland, navigable for steamers of considerable size. One, called Sonoma creek or estuary leads into Sonoma valley; another known as Petaluma creek is navigable for eighteen miles inland. The flourishing town of Petaluma is situated on this slough at the head of navigation.

Russian river, the largest stream in the county, enters it on the north, and flows in a southeasterly direction through the county for about thirty miles, and then turns at a sharp angle to the west, and empties into the Pacific ocean. It is not navigable.

Sulphur creek, on which the Geyser springs are located, rises in the Mayacmas mountains, and flows northerly into Russian river above the town of Cloverdale.

Mark West creek rises in a lofty spur of the Mayacmas range between Napa and Sonoma valleys, flowing west across the plains into Russian river. Santa Rosa creek rises in the same mountain, and flows across the Santa Rosa valley, parallel with and four miles south of Mark West creek, and empties into a series of lakes, which, in high water, overflow into Russian river. Sonoma creek rises in the same range, and flows southerly through Sonoma valley into San Pablo bay.

The Valhalla, awkwardly spelled *Gualala*, is a stream on the western border of the county, flowing due north, and parallel with the coast, just inside a range of hills which rise up from the shore of the ocean. After a straight north course for almost twenty-five miles, it turns and empties into the ocean. There was never a stream so well named; great red-wood trees shade its limpid waters, the favorite haunt of the salmon and the trout; the hills are full of game, deer, elk and bear—and if ever there was a place where the “bear roasted every morning became whole at night,” it was true, figuratively speaking, of our Sonoma Valhalla,—for the camp on its margin was never without its haunch of venison or creel of trout. May the fellow who tortured the name by trying to Peruvianize it, never taste the joys of the real Valhalla.

The course of these streams can be marked by referring to the map. We will say, in passing, that the land along the water courses described, and for some distance from them, is a rich alluvial of unsurpassed fertility.

MEANS OF ACCESS.

Sonoma county being, as we said elsewhere, off the great line of travel, some special reference to its means of access may not be out of place. The San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad runs through the great Central valley, starting from Cloverdale, its northern terminus, passing the principal towns, and terminating at a point on Petaluma creek, where it connects with a fast steamer for San Francisco.

The whole time occupied from the northern limit of Sonoma to San Francisco is about four hours. An extension of the road is now building through Marin county to a point on the bay not more than six miles from San Francisco, which will shorten the time of travel nearly one-half, to about two hours from Santa Rosa, and one hour and a half from Petaluma. Another railroad enters the western section of the county from Marin, the San Francisco and North Pacific Coast Railroad. This a narrow-gauge road running into the coast lumber region, to which we have referred. Daily trips are made by this route to and from San Francisco. A steamer runs direct from San Francisco to Sonoma valley, where it connects with a prismoidal or one-rail railway for the town of Sonoma. In addition to the facilities of travel given, there are a number of small sailing vessels which ply back and forth between San Francisco and Petaluma.

EARLY HISTORY.

Sonoma is an Indian word which means "Valley of the Moon," and was the name originally given to the beautiful valley from which the county was afterwards called. The tribe of Indians inhabiting the valley were called the Chocuyens. On the arrival of the first expedition to establish a mission, the name Sonoma was given to the chief by Jose Altimira, the priest in charge, and after that the chief, the tribe and the valley they inhabited took the name Sonoma.

In 1775 Lieutenant Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, a distinguished navigator of the Spanish navy, in a vessel called the Sonora, entered and explored Bodega bay on his return from a voyage to the northeast coast. The port thenceforth took the name Bodega, from its discoverer. He was the first of the old navigators, as far as the record shows, who touched on the coast of what is now Sonoma county,—though Sir Francis Drake landed, in 1579, just below it; and, in 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo had discovered Cape Mendocino, and had named it in honor of the "illustrious Senor Antonio de Mendoza," the viceroy under whose patronage the voyage had been undertaken.

From this it will be seen that Cape Mendocino was baptized, and the coast of Sonoma was seen, by European navigators, sixty years before there was any settlement by the English on the eastern side of the continent of America. After its discovery, however, the country lay for two hundred and thirty-five years in the undisputed possession of the aborigines. There was no attempt made to occupy it.

Father Begart, a Jesuit, who lived many years in Lower California, is authority for the statement that no white man ever lived in California before 1769, just one hundred and seven years ago.

The first expedition made inland into Sonoma was the year after the discovery of Bodega, for the purpose of finding out if there was not a connection between the waters of San Francisco and Bodega bays. It must have been supposed by the missionaries who had but recently occupied San Francisco that the peninsula now included in the boundaries of Marin county, was an island. Captain Quiros made a boat voyage up Petaluma creek, and proved there was no such connection as had been supposed.

The port of Bodega was occupied for a short time, in 1793, by a Spanish garrison and four guns, which were soon removed, however, to Monterey, there being no indication of the threatened English occupation which had caused the alarm.

We now come to the first permanent settlement of Europeans north of the bay of San Francisco. In January, 1811, Alexander Kuskoff, in a Russian ship from Alaska, occupied Bodega bay, under the pretext that he had been refused the privilege of getting a supply of water in San Francisco. He claimed that he had purchased a small tract of land on the bay from the natives. To the bay of Bodega they gave the name of "Romanzoff," and called Russian river the "Slavianska." Kuskoff, the commander of the Russians, had a wooden leg, and was called by the Californians, "Pie de Palo." General Vallejo says, as the Russians "came without invitation, and occupied land without permission, they may be called the first 'squatters' of California."

So soon as the permanent settlement was known to the authorities of California, news of the event was forwarded to the seat of the supreme government at Madrid. It may well be imagined that a long time was occupied in sending this news and receiving a reply from the viceroy, which was an order commanding the Russians to depart. The reply of the Northmen to this communication was that the viceroy's orders had been forwarded to St. Petersburg for the Emperor's action.

Four years later, in 1816, we find the Russian and Spanish authorities debating the question of occupation, on board a Russian vessel in the waters of San Francisco. Nothing came of the conference. The Russians continued to trap for furs all along the coast, and in all the interior streams of Northern California. They removed their settlement higher up the coast, and built a stockade fort, called Ross; which was singularly well adapted for defence,—it was, in fact, impregnable against any force which the Spanish government could send against it.

The fort was a quadrilateral stockade. It contained houses for the director and officers, an arsenal, a barrack for the men, store-houses, and a Greek chapel, surmounted with a cross, and provided with a chime of bells. The stockade was about ten feet high, pierced with embrasures, furnished with carronades; at opposite corners were two bastions, two stories high, and furnished with six pieces of artillery. The gardens were extensive, and the work-shops were supplied with all the tools necessary for working in wood and iron. The orchard was large, and some of the trees, now over fifty years old, are still living, and bear fruit. The church above described was the first, not only in Sonoma, but the first north of the bay of San Francisco; so, among other things to the credit of Sonoma county, must be set down the fact that she can boast of the first church north of San Francisco in what is now the State of California.

It is almost certain that the Russians did contemplate a permanent occupation and possession of the country north of the bay of San Francisco, as they were greatly in need of a grain-producing country to supply their fur hunters on the bleak and sterile coast of Alaska. The promulgation of the doctrine by President Monroe, in 1823, that the American continents were henceforth not to be considered as subjects for foreign colonization by any European power, was a damper on Russian aspirations in California.

Nothing came of the conference in San Francisco, and the Russians remained, continued to trap, and made annual shipments to Sitka of grain raised in and around the fort, and at Bodega, where the town of Bodega now stands.

It will be seen from this that Sonoma was also the first wheat-exporting county on the coast of California.

An extract from the journal of Captain John Hall, who visited this coast and Bodega in 1822, will show the products of the fat pastures of Sonoma even at that early day. Captain Hall entered the port of Bodega on the 8th of June, and was visited by the Russian governor, who came from Ross. He brought with him, "says Captain Hall," two fine fat sheep, a large tub of butter, and some milk, which was very acceptable after a long voyage, and gave us proof at once of the governor's hospitality, and of the abundance and cheapness of

provisions. The price of a bullock at that time was twelve dollars, and of a sheep two dollars; vegetables were also plentiful, and in their proper season.

The "dominion of Spain over the Californias" terminated in 1822, after fifty years of peaceful prosperity for the country. Mexico having established her independence in that year, California gave in her adherence, and declared the northern possessions henceforth dependent alone on the government of Mexico. The Federal constitution of 1824 was afterwards adopted, and California was governed by a political chief, aided by a council known as the territorial deputation.

Prior to this change in the government the authorities had commenced to fence against the Russians, who, it was feared, intended to get a foot-hold on the bay of San Francisco, coming south from Bodega. The mission of San Rafael had been established. In June and July, 1823, Jose Altimira came with a military escort from San Francisco to select a proper site for a new mission, to which it was proposed to transfer the mission of San Francisca de Assis. Padre Altimira left San Rafael on the 25th June, and passed, the following day, the point called by the Indians, Chocuali, where Petaluma now stands, and encamped near the old adobe house on the Petaluma plain. The following day they came to the valley of Sonoma. The description of the pioneer, Padre Altimira, is so graphic that it will bear quoting in full. "About 3 P.M., June 28th, 1823," says the Father, "leaving our camp and our boat in the slough near by, we started to explore, directing our course northwestward across the plain of Sonoma, until we reached a stream (Sonoma river) of about five hundred plumas of water, crystalline, and most pleasant to the taste, flowing through a grove of beautiful and useful trees. The stream flows from hills which enclose the plain, and terminate it on the north. We went on penetrating a broad grove of oaks, the trees were lofty and robust, promising utility in the future for fuel and building purposes. This grove was three leagues from east to west, and a league and a-half from north to south. No one can doubt the salubrity of the climate after noting the plains, the lofty shade-trees, alder, ash, poplar, and laurel, and especially the abundance and luxuriance of the wild grapes. We also observed that a launch may come up the coast to where a settlement can be formed, truly a most convenient circumstance. We see from these, and other facts, that Sonoma is a most desirable site for a mission." The explorations were continued in various directions until it was decided that the present site of the old town and mission of Sonoma was the best place for settlement. So, on the fourth day of July, 1823, Father Altimira planted a cross near the spot where the Catholic church now stands, and the second settlement, (the first having been made at Ross,) was founded within the present limits of Sonoma county.

The mission buildings were commenced that year. Altimira writes to Governor Arguello at San Francisco, that he cut one hundred redwood beams for a granary in four days, and that he was highly pleased with the site, and alleged that it afforded more inducements than any other place between it and San Diego.

The mission was destroyed in 1826, by the Indians. Padre Altimira escaped with his life, and soon after left the country. In 1827 the mission was revived,

rebuilt, and flourished until the decree of secularization, (promulgated by the Mexican government in 1833, and enforced in 1834), led to the overthrow of the authority of the fathers, the liberation, and dispersion of the Indians, and to the final partition of the mission lands and cattle; in short to a complete revolution in the ecclesiastical government of California. Whatever may have been the effect on the Mexican population, the result to the Indians was disastrous.

It is stated that some of the missions, which in 1834 had as many as one thousand five hundred souls, numbered only a few hundred in 1842. The two missions of San Rafael and Sonoma decreased in this time, the former from one thousand two hundred and forty souls, to twenty; and the latter from one thousand three hundred, to seventy. On the other hand, those who most favored the secularization scheme, contend that in this section at least the decrease of the Indians was caused by the small-pox, which broke out among them in a virulent form in the year 1837—contracted from a subordinate Mexican officer, who caught the disease at Ross. The officer recovered, while sixty thousand Indians are said to have perished from this scourge, in the territory now included in the counties of Sonoma, Napa and Solano.

In 1834, Governor Figueroa visited Sonoma, for the purpose of establishing a presidio, which was to be named Santa Anna y Farias. The site selected was on Mark West creek, on the land now owned by Henry Mizer, near to a well-known red-wood tree, which is still standing. The future city was to be called after the then President of Mexico, Santa Anna, and the Vice-President Farias. That the city did not survive the infliction of such a name, is not surprising. It was killed in its baptism. This town was intended to be colonized by a company of Mexicans, known as the Cosmopolitan company, who came to California under the command of one Hijas. The leaders of the scheme disagreed with the head of the government here, and though they arrived in Sonoma, the whole party were returned to San Francisco. The town on Mark West was abandoned, and the same year General Vallejo laid out the town of Sonoma as it now exists, and established his headquarters as the military commandant of California. General Vallejo took command in 1835, and was ordered to extend the settlements in the direction of Ross. For this purpose he sent three men, McIntosh, James Black, and James Dawson, in that direction, and they settled on what was afterwards the O'Farrel tract, near the present site of the town of Freestone. The three men built a house there, and agreed, as we have heard the story told, to get a grant of land. One of the party went to Monterey for that purpose, either Black or McIntosh, and procured the grant in the name of the two, leaving out the name of Dawson. Dawson was so incensed that he sawed off one-third of the frame house, and moved it over the line of the grant which his companions had secured, and applied for a grant in his own name adjoining them, which grant was afterwards confirmed. Black and McIntosh continued to reside for some time on the Jonive grant, and built a kind of mill there, the remains of which may still be seen near the residence of the late Hon. Jasper O'Farrel.

The Russians were then occupying the tract afterwards known as the Bodega ranch, but six miles from the new comers, and disputes soon arose, as it was

intended they should. The colonists, ever ready for a quarrel, and the Russians, who were making up their minds to leave, gradually contracted their lines toward Ross. They found the Anglo-Saxon, like all the race, stout in the maintenance of the right they had acquired to the soil. Matters grew worse, and finally, in 1839, the Russians made arrangements to abandon the country. In 1840 they disposed of their rights at Ross, including houses, stock and fixtures, and embarked from San Francisco for Sitka—in all, men, women and children, about four hundred souls.

Some time during his administration, Rotscheff, the last commander at Ross, with a party of Russians, crossed over to the highest peak of the Mayacmas range, which looms up grand and beautiful from the high hills back of Ross; on the summit of which he fixed a plate inscribed in his own language, and gave the mountain the name it now bears, St. Helena, in honor of his wife the Princess de Gagarin, said to have been a woman of rare attractions, both mental and physical. But the Russians, who for thirty years had been a thorn in the side of the Californian authorities had departed, and with them all fear from that quarter.

The Russians were hardly out of sight before the rulers of the colony found themselves face to face with a more formidable invader than those who had just sailed quietly away. Between 1840 and 1845, a number of Americans had scaled the Sierra, and, with their families, their wagons, teams and cattle, were settling in the valleys of California. Many of these emigrants had started for Oregon, and were turned hitherward from Fort Hall; attracted by the reports which reached them of the salubrity of the climate, and rare fertility of the soil. No dream of gold then in the hills of California. But the old trappers, many of whom had crossed the mountains, reported it a fair and goodly land.

Capt. Stephen Smith next obtained a grant of land at Bodega, which had formerly been farmed by Russians. He purchased the buildings on the land from Capt. Sutter, who claimed them under his Russian purchase. In 1846, he arrived at the port of Bodega, bringing with him a steam engine, the first ever seen in California, and with it he run a steam saw mill. When all was ready, he sent out invitations to the rancheros and grandees to come and see it start. Among others, Gen. Vallejo, then military commandant of California, was present, and says he remembers having predicted on the occasion that before many years there would be more steam engines than soldiers in California. While the native Californians, the lords of the soil, are enjoying the hospitality of Capt. Smith, and admiring the novelty of the steam engine, we will take the opportunity to tell our readers by what tenure and in what quantity they held their landed estates.

There were twenty-three land grants confirmed to original owners in Sonoma county. The largest was the Petaluma grant, which included all the land between Sonoma creek on the east, the bay of San Pablo on the south, and Petaluma creek on the west. It embraced within its far-reaching boundaries at least seventy-five thousand acres of the finest and most fertile land in the State; every acre of it was arable, and a fence of twelve miles along the north line from Sonoma to Petaluma creek, would have enclosed the whole. This tract of land is now assessed for not less than three millions of dollars.

The foreigners to whom land was granted in this section were Jacob P. Leese, John Fitch, Juan P. Cooper, John Wilson and Mark West. The three former were brothers-in-law of General Vallejo. The site of the present town of Santa Rosa was granted to Mrs. Carrillo, the mother of Julio Carrillo, and the country between Santa Rosa and Sebastopol, to Joaquin Carrillo, a brother of Mrs. Vallejo. Captain Stephen Smith was granted the Bodega ranch, which included thirty-five thousand four hundred and eighty-seven acres. Captain Smith was a remarkable man; he came to California from Chili, and was a fine type of the pioneer, honest, hospitable and generous to a fault. Juan B. Cooper was another old sea-captain; he owned the rancho "El Molino," translated *the mill-ranch*. He had just gotten up his mill when a tremendous freshet came in 1840-41, and washed it all away. The Ross ranch was granted to Manuel Torres. The German ranch on the coast above Ross was granted to a number of Germans, and they gave to the stream which flowed through their land the appropriate name of Valhalla.

Jasper O'Farrel exchanged a ranch in Marin county for the Canada de Jonive, and purchased of James McIntosh the Estero Americano. The reader will remember that Black, McIntosh and Dawson were the very first English-speaking settlers in Sonoma county. The home of Jasper O'Farrel, in Bodega, in the early history of Sonoma county, was the seat of princely hospitality. From far and near it was made a stopping place, and we have been told by old settlers, that a beef was killed every day and consumed at his generous board. He possessed the genius, the wit and the liberality which distinguish his race. He was afterwards a member of the State senate, in which he ably represented Sonoma county.

Mark West was a sailor, and a different type of man from those above described. His grant included six thousand six hundred and sixty-three acres between Mark West and Santa Rosa creeks, and was the richest body of land of the same number of acres in the State. There was not an acre of it that would not produce from seventy-five to one hundred bushels of wheat. He lies buried on a stony point near the residence of H. C. Mizer, and none of his descendants own a foot of his splendid estate, which is to-day worth over half a million of dollars.

The total number of acres included in all the grants in the county was four hundred thousand one hundred and forty-three, just less than one half its whole area as now bounded, which is estimated at eight hundred and fifty thousand acres. All of the valleys we have elsewhere described were covered by grants without an exception. The public land all lay in the low hills on the border of the valleys, and in the mountains. Fortunately for the future welfare of the county, these grants were sub-divided and sold in small tracts at a very early day. The titles to most of them were settled without much dispute or delay; and the sub-divided lands were purchased by industrious and enterprising farmers, who have since lived upon and improved them. They have converted the long-horned worthless Spanish cattle into the short horn, and the mustang horse into the thorough-bred, and the pastures of this worthless stock into homes of beauty and teeming abundance. With one exception all the grants have been sold in small tracts, and that is the Cotate ranch, on the

plain between Petaluma and Santa Rosa. This tract belongs to an estate, and under the will cannot be divided until the youngest child comes of age. This is the largest farm in the county, the railroad passing through it for six miles. The dairy is supplied with the milk from two hundred and fifty cows; there are five hundred head of cattle on the place, and ten thousand head of sheep; each cow averages daily one pound and a quarter of butter during the season, and the sheep shear an average of six pounds of wool each.

We brought the early history of the county up to about 1845, when the twenty-three grants we have just described were held by their original owners, who kept herds of cattle and horses upon them, and cultivated enough corn, beans and peas, to supply the Spanish population, a light tax indeed upon the most fertile of the rich agricultural valleys of California. In the early part of 1846, it was estimated that there were at least two thousand foreigners of all ages and sexes, scattered over the territory of California.

They were mainly in the Sacramento, Santa Clara and Napa valleys; a few had drifted into Sonoma, among them Cyrus Alexander, for whom Alexander valley is named,—and Mose Carson, a brother of Lindsay Carson, of Lake county,—and Frank Bedwell, the genial and sturdy old pioneer, who has resided in Sonoma ever since he purchased his place of Mr. Alexander, which was in 1845. The venerable Joel Walker, now a resident of the county, assisted in driving the cattle and horses from Ross to Sutter's ranch, in the Sacramento valley. There are a number of anti-territorial pioneers in the county, who did not reside here at the time of which we write, among them Major Snyder, of Sonoma, the Marshals, James Gregson and the McChristians, of Green valley, and doubtless others whose names and date of arrival we do not know. Of those here, some came by sea and some by land, none dreamed that they were the forerunners of a great tide which would gather from all climes, and that their footfall on the unaccustomed path was but "the first low plash of waves, where soon would roll a human sea."

But we anticipate. Events in California in the early part of 1846 were rapidly approaching a crisis. The United States and Mexico were at war. An American fleet was on the coast; Fremont, with a small command of regular soldiers, was hovering on the boundaries of California, ostensibly on a topographical survey; England and France, through their representatives, were watching with eager interest the turn of affairs, and were anxious and willing to assume a protectorate, or to take forcible possession of the country. The native Californians were comparatively few in numbers, were scattered over a great space, were badly armed, and divided in council. The crisis was approaching, and the town of Sonoma was destined to become the theatre of the first act in the drama which ended with the acquisition of the territory of California by the United States.

On the morning of the 16th of June a company of thirty-three Americans from Sutter's fort, Napa, and Sonoma vallies, marched into the town of Sonoma about daylight, captured the garrison, and took General Vallejo, the commanding general of the province of California, a prisoner. They garrisoned the town, and a few days after the capture they sent General Vallejo, his brother Salvador, Jacob P. Leese and Victor Prudon to Sutter's fort, on the Sacramento

river. This company of men had elected one of their number, named Merritt, captain; they acted on their own responsibility, and committed no excess.

They were not authorized to raise the American flag, and determined to make a flag on their own account. Three men,—Ben Duell (now of Lake county), Todd and Currie,—made the flag. Duell and Currie, as it happened, were both saddlers, and did the sewing; Todd painted the stripes and the bear. The material of which the stripes were made, was not, as has been stated, an old red-flannel petticoat, but was new flannel and white cotton, which Duell got from Mrs. W. B. Elliott, who had been brought to the town of Sonoma,—her husband, W. B. Elliott, being one of the bear-flag party. Some blue domestic was found elsewhere, and used in making the flag; the drawing was rudely done, and, when finished, the bear,—from which the flag and party took their name,—resembled a pig as much as the object for which it was intended. The idea of the bear was, that having entered into the fight there was to be no back-down, or surrender, until the end in view was accomplished. We have this account of the making of the bear-flag from Mr. Duell, who was then a young man, and whose memory was perfect in the matter of which he spoke. A few days after the making of the flag, Cowey and Fowler were sent, or volunteered to go, to the Fitch ranch to get some powder from Mose Carson. They were waylaid and killed, and their bodies mutilated. An Indian gave the information; the bodies were found and buried where they lay, and their graves may still be seen on the Catron ranch, next to the county farm, about three miles from Santa Rosa. The graves are unmarked, and soon no trace of them will be seen,—all but the names of these two daring pioneers will be lost forever.

A man named Todd, while out looking for Fowler and Cowey, was captured by the Californians and taken to an Indian ranch called Olompali, about eight miles below Petaluma. They were pursued by a party of twenty-three bear-flag men, under command of Granville Swift and Sam Kelsey. A fight ensued at Olompali, in which seventy-three mounted Californians were forced to retreat, leaving their prisoner Todd, who was rescued. Frank Bedwell was in this fight; a number of the Californians were killed, but none of the Americans. Having recovered Todd, the object of their search, the scouting party returned to Sonoma.

A few days after, Fremont arrived in Sonoma and fitted out an expedition to pursue the Californians. He took command and marched to San Rafael, meeting no resistance; the enemy had crossed over to the San Francisco side of the bay. Arriving at San Rafael, two men, non-combatants,—the Hanro brothers,—were captured and shot by Fremont's orders. All the old bear-flag men, without exception, condemn the killing of these men as cruel and unnecessary; no resistance whatever having been made to the Americans, and the two men killed were on a visit to their parents from another part of the country.

The latter days of June and the first days of July, 1846, were destined to become eventful in the history of California. While the events described were occurring on the frontier,—as the Californians called Sonoma county,—Commodore Sloat was enacting another important part in the work of conquest at

the capitol of Monterey. He arrived at that place from Mazatlan, in the frigate Savannah. Five days after (on the 7th) he sent Captain Mervin and two hundred and fifty marines and seamen on shore; took possession of and raised the American flag on the capitol of Monterey. He was just in time, for the Collingwood,—the flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Sir George Seymour, of the British navy,—was speeding under full sail for the port of Monterey, with the purpose of taking possession of it in the name of his government.

On the 10th of July Captain Montgomery, of the sloop-of-war Portsmouth, who had taken possession of the port of San Francisco, dispatched Lieutenant Revere with a detachment from his ship to Sonoma. Lieutenant Revere hauled down the banner of the bear, and raised in its stead the American flag, which then first swelled to the breeze in Sonoma county. This ended the conquest as far as this portion of the State was concerned. Commodore Stockton succeeded Sloat, and the further progress of events has no special local interest.

The town of Sonoma was garrisoned from that time until 1851,—a number of officers, since distinguished, having been stationed there. Among them, General Hooker, Lieutenant Derby and General Sherman. The first civil officer was one John Nash, who was commissioned by General Kearny as alcalde of Sonoma. Nash had a very exalted idea of the dignity of his office; assumed ministerial as well as judicial powers; signed himself "Chief Justice of California," and having been removed by the military governor, he refused to recognize the authority and held on to the office. Lieutenant Sherman,—now General Sherman,—captured him and took him before Governor Mason, at Monterey, who reprimanded and released him. This first civil officer of Sonoma,—“Chief Justice Nash” as he called himself, and “Squire Nash” as his neighbors called him,—was a good natured, illiterate but honest man. When the rumors of gold reached Sonoma, Squire Nash was employed by a number of persons to go to the mines, take observations and report. This was in 1848; he returned with gold dust to the value of eight hundred and thirty-seven dollars. He then went to Mormon Island with a party of Sonoma miners, and died there that winter. Ex-Governor Boggs succeeded Nash to the office of alcalde. The county remained under the control of military governors from its conquest in 1846 up to the fall of 1849.

In June, 1849, General Riley, who had succeeded General Mason, issued a proclamation for the election of delegates to a general convention to form a State constitution, and for filling the offices of judge of the superior court, prefects and sub-prefects. These officers were to be voted for, and the successful candidate was to be appointed by General Riley. A first alcalde, or judge of the first instance, was also to be elected. The district of Sonoma included all the territory between the Sacramento river and the ocean, and Oregon and the bay of San Francisco. The election was held on the first day of August, and that was the first general election in the State. The delegates elected to the convention from Sonoma, were General Vallejo, Joel Walker, R. Semple. L. W. Boggs was also elected but did not attend.

In August, General Riley issued appointments to Stephen Cooper as judge of first district, and to C. P. Wilkins as prefect of the district of Sonoma. The convention to form a constitution for the future State of California, met in

Monterey on the first of September. R. Semple, one of the delegates from the Sonoma district, was chosen president. The constitution was framed, was submitted to the people, and on the 13th day of November was ratified by them. At the same time Peter D. Burnett was elected the first civil governor. At this election the district of Sonoma polled but five hundred and fifty-two votes, of which four hundred and twenty-four were for Burnett, and one hundred and twenty-eight were for Sherwood. One of the last civil appointments made by General Riley before the adoption of the constitution, was that of Richard A. Maupin, a well-remembered Sonoma pioneer, to be judge of the superior tribunal, vice Lewis Dent, who had resigned. Jacob R. Snyder, now a resident of this county, was a member of the constitutional convention from Sacramento district.

The first legislature met in San Jose in January, 1850. General M. G. Vallejo was a member of the senate from Sonoma. J. O. Bradford and J. E. Brackett were members of the assembly. General Vallejo's seat was first given to Jonas Spect, but on the 22d of December the committee reported that the official return from Larkins ranch gave Spect but two votes instead of twenty-eight, a total of but one hundred and eighty-one votes against General Vallejo's one hundred and ninety-nine. Mr. Spect then gave up his seat to General Vallejo. At this session of the legislature General Vallejo made his well-known report on the derivation and definition of the names of the several counties of this State; a report unequalled in its style and in the amount of interesting information crowded into its small compass. In that report first appeared the explanation of the Indian word Sonoma, signifying "Valley of the Moon." The Senator further said, the tribe occupying Sonoma valley was called the Chocuyens, but, in 1824, on the arrival of the first expedition to establish a mission, the name Sonoma having been given the chief by Father Jose Altamira, the Chocuyens then adopted the name, which they still retain. This tribe was subject to a great chief named Marin de Licatiut, who made his headquarters near Petaluma.

There was not much done at this session further than organizing the State and county government. Assemblyman J. E. Brackett was elected major-general of the second division of militia, and Robert Hopkins was elected district judge. Mr. Hopkins was a lawyer, living in Sonoma, and had been appointed, with the Hon. George Pearce, a committee to visit San Jose, the then capital, and prevent the establishment of a boundry line which would include the valley of Sonoma in the county of Napa. Arriving, they found the question of appointing a district judge for the Sonoma district coming up, and the only candidate was W. R. Turner, who had never been in the district, or at all events did not reside there. Pearce proposed to Hopkins to run for the office. Turner, who up to this time had, as he thought, no opposition, and a sure thing, was beaten just as he was stretching his hand for the prize. Hopkins got a unanimous vote, and Turner went for some other district, and was appointed. Mr. Pearce who had gone to San Jose for one purpose, very unexpectedly accomplished another, and Mr. Hopkins returned as the district judge of Sonoma.

On the 9th of September of that year, the State was admitted into the Union, and the second legislature met at San Jose, January 6, 1851,—Martin E. Cook, representing the eleventh senatorial district, composed of the counties of Sonoma, Solano, Napa, Marin, Colusa, Yolo and Trinity—in fine, all the territory west of the Sacramento river. John S. Bradford and A. Stearns represented, in the lower house, the counties of Napa, Sonoma, Marin, and Solano. A report of the census agent to the legislature that year gave the population of the county of Sonoma at five hundred and sixty-one souls. The State government this session was fully organized, and the machinery of the county governments was set to work.

On the first Wednesday in September, 1851, there was a county election, and the local government vested in a court of sessions, presided over by the county judge, and two associates chosen from the justices of the peace. A complete list of the county judges, associates and supervisors will be found elsewhere. The court of sessions assumed control of the affairs of the county, and divided it into townships, naming Analy township after a sister of the Hon. Jasper O'Farrell, a pioneer and large land-owner in that district.

In November, 1851, the Hon. C. P. Wilkins succeeded H. A. Green as county judge. Israel Brockman was sheriff, and the late Dr. John Hendley was county clerk and recorder. A few people had gathered about the present site of the town of Petaluma, which was becoming a shipping point for Bodega and Green Valley produce. James McReynolds built that year for James Hudspeth a potato warehouse, which was the first building erected there. There were a number of hunters for the San Francisco market in the valley, and the place was mainly known for the abundance and excellence of its game.

In 1852 Sonoma county may be said to have first felt the impulse of the coming Anglo-Saxon. A number of persons were then in Petaluma. Kent, Smith & Coe had a store about opposite the site of the American hotel; the late Tom Baylis had a sloop plying between that point and the city, and also built a warehouse and hotel. At Sonoma, the county-seat, the year was signalized by the appearance of the *Sonoma Bulletin*, the first paper published in this county, or north of the Sacramento river. It was ably conducted by A. J. Cox, and we can truly say that it was a creditable start for the county in the field of journalism. On Monday, July 5, the first board of supervisors met, and took charge of the affairs of the county—the members were D. O. Shattuck, who was selected chairman; William A. Hereford, of Santa Rosa district; Leonard P. Hanson, and James Singley. The Santa Rosa ranch, fifteen thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight acres, was assessed at one dollar per acre. The Fitch grant was assessed at the same rate, and so were the O'Farrell and Mark West grants. T. B. Valentine, who claimed the site of Petaluma, was assessed on six thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars. At the Presidential election that fall, Pierce received four hundred and seventy-five votes, and Scott two hundred and sixty-seven, a majority of two hundred and eight. E. W. McKinstrey was elected district judge; J. M. Hudspeth, senator; H. P. Ewing and James W. McKamy, assemblymen.

The steamer *Georgiana*, Captain Hoenshield, ran three times a week between

San Francisco and Sonoma, and a line of stages left every Saturday for Bodega, returning next day—Peter Peterson, proprietor.

In 1853 the city of Sonoma stood still, if it did not retrograde, and Petaluma gained in wealth and population. The great Central valley was filling up, and the balance of population, wealth and political power was shifting to the west side of Sonoma mountains. Sonoma had reached the high-water mark of its prosperity, and the ebb set outward, very slowly, so slowly that those who drifted were not conscious of it, but surely it was going down. At the meeting of the board of supervisors in March of this year, Joe Hooker, "fighting Joe," was appointed road-overseer. Washington township was created this year, and in the fall the polls were opened at the store of A. C. Godwin, where Geyerville now stands. We noticed that on the 23d of July wheat is quoted at four and three-quarter cents in Sonoma, with a prospect of a rise, a good price in a region with a virgin soil, capable at its best of producing eighty bushels of grain to the acre.

This year the Democratic convention met at Santa Rosa, and nominated Joe Hooker and Lindsay Carson for the assembly, and a full county ticket. The Settlers' convention met on the 6th of August, and nominated a full county ticket, headed by James N. Bennett and Judge Robert Hopkins for the assembly. The election came off on Wednesday, September 7; Carson was elected to the legislature, and there was a tie vote between Bennett and Hooker. The question of the removal of the county seat from Sonoma to Santa Rosa entered into the first contest quietly, but was not openly discussed; the second race between Bennett and Hooker hinged directly on this issue. The election came off on the 29th of October, and Bennett, who lived in Bennett valley, and for whom it is named, beat Hooker, a resident of Sonoma valley, thirteen votes. Before the legislature met, Lindsay Carson resigned, and there was another special election on the 23d of December. W. B. Hagans was elected. This was a triangular fight between W. B. Hagans, James Singley and Joseph W. Belden.

When the legislature of 1854 met, nothing was said the first of the session about the removal of the county seat by the Sonoma delegation. When the bill was sprung, it was put through without delay, and before the drowsy Sonomians in the historic old city knew what was going on, the bill submitting the question to a vote of people, had passed. The *Sonoma Bulletin*, of April 8th, says: "The first intimation we had of the *people's* desire to move the county seat from Sonoma to Santa Rosa was through the legislative proceedings of March 28, which inform us that a bill had been introduced and passed for that purpose."

The bill provided that at the fall election the vote of the people should be taken on the question of removal. The election took place on the 6th of September. We let the *Sonoma Bulletin* tell the result. In its issue of the 14th of September, it says: "The county seat—that's a gone, or going case! The up-county people worked furiously against us, and have come out victorious. What majority the new seat got, we are not aware; but whatever it is, why it is as it is, which incontestable truth consoles us." On Thursday, the 22d of September, the archives were removed to the new county seat, and further

interesting details of the removal will be given elsewhere, in an account of the early history of the town of Santa Rosa. In that year Roberson & Parsons put on the first stage line between Sonoma and Petaluma, a straw which proves the growing importance of the latter place, elsewhere set forth.

From 1854 to 1860, the county progressed in wealth and population slowly, when its great advantages are considered; still its growth was healthy. The most rapid increase in wealth and population was in the city of Petaluma. Santa Rosa, having gotten the county seat, went to sleep—making but little progress. The old town of Sonoma stood still. From this time on the history of the county can best be carried on with that of its leading towns, to which we will soon invite the attention of the reader.

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL OF SONOMA COUNTY.

The climate of the county of Sonoma differs in many respects from that of other portions of the State. First, in this: the average rainfall is about one-quarter more than at San Francisco, fifty miles south. We have never, since the American settlement of the county, lost a crop from drouth, though other parts of the State have suffered severely. This is particularly due to the fact that our coast line is thirty-five miles west of a due north line from San Francisco. As the coast trends to the northward and westward, the annual rainfall increases. South of San Francisco the coast trends to the south and east, and the reverse rule holds good—the rainfall is lighter until, as in Lower California, it rarely rains at all.

The season of rain in this section may be said to commence in October and end in May, though it sometimes rains in June. It is rare that it rains longer than two or three days at a time, and the intervals between rains varies from a few days to a month or six weeks. Old Californians consider the winter the most pleasant part of the year. As soon as the rains commence—in October—the grass grows, and by the middle of November the hills and pastures are green. So soon as the ground is in condition to plow, after the first rains, the farmers sow their grain. December is usually a stormy month, with now and then a fall of snow on the surrounding hills; but it is rare that the snow falls in the valleys, and never lies on the ground. The thermometer seldom goes as low as thirty-seven degrees above zero; occasionally there is a thin coat of ice over the pools of standing water. December is usually the month of heaviest rainfall. In January one begins to recognize an indescribable feeling of spring in the air; the almond trees blossom, and the robins come. During this month grass and early-sown grain grow rapidly. If the early season has not been favorable for seeding, grain may be sown in January, February or March, and it will produce well. In this county it is often sown as late as the middle of April, producing a fair crop. As a rule, the bulk of the planting is done either in the fall, or in January, February, and the first half of March.

February is a growing month, and is one of the most pleasant in the year. It is like the month of May in the eastern States. The peach and cherry trees bloom this month. March is a stormy month; we are liable to have either heavy southeast storms or a dry north wind.

April, as in the east, is often all smiles and tears—sunshine alternating with showers. Nature pushes her work in April, and vegetation grows astonishingly. The turning-point of the crop comes in the long warm days of this month; the rainy season is about over, and from that time until it matures the crop is sustained by the sea fogs, which set in about the first of May. In June the grain matures, and by the middle of July is ready for the harvest.

The season in Sonoma county begins a month sooner, and ends six weeks later than in Southern California. This is one of the greatest of its advantages over the other parts of the State, and has given the farmers of this section a good crop every year for twenty-seven years, while disastrous failures have elsewhere occurred. Corn is planted in April, after the rains have ceased, and a good crop is often raised without a drop of rain having fallen upon it; by good crop we mean, on the best bottom lands, from eighty to one hundred bushels to the acre.

We have mentioned the fog which sets in about the 1st of May. This phenomenon, of almost daily occurrence from May to the middle of August, is an important factor in the growth of the crop along the sea coast and on the bay of San Francisco. About the 1st of May the trade winds set in from the northwest. The Spanish galleons, bound from Manilla to Accapulco—three hundred years ago—steered for cape Mendocino, where they would encounter the northwest trade, and run before it, with swelling sails, to their beautiful harbor, Acapulco. To these winds the farmer of Sonoma, of our own time, is indebted for their never-failing crop. After a drying north wind in spring, which has parched the earth and twisted the blades of the growing grain, the trade sets in, and, as if by magic, the scene changes, the shriveled blades unfold, and absorb life at every pore from the moisture-laden breeze.

When the trade winds set in, a fog-bank forms every day off the land, caused, perhaps, by the meeting of a cold and warm strata of air. In the afternoon this fog comes inland with the breeze, which commences about noon every day. It is not an unhealthful fog; on the contrary, the most healthful season of the year is when the trade winds prevail. The fog spreads through the county late in the afternoon, continues through the night, and disappears about sunrise. This mild process of irrigation is repeated nearly every day during the season. The farmer estimates that three heavy fogs are equal to a light rain.

The growing season is from six weeks to two months longer on the coast than in the interior; the grass keeps green, and this accounts for the productiveness of the dairy cows on the coast, and also for the fact that the wool of this section is very superior in length of staple, strength of fibre and in color, to that grown in the interior of the State.

We will give a brief review of the seasons since the American occupation of the country, as they affected Sonoma county. The season of 1849-50 was extremely wet; there was no rain gauge in this county, but not less than 45 inches of rain fell; the whole of Santa Rosa and Petaluma plains were flooded. In 1850-51 the rainfall was light; estimating by the reported fall of 4.10 inches in Sacramento city, it must have been about 12 inches here.

In 1851-52 the rainfall in this county was 24 inches; in 1852-3 there were very heavy rains, and the whole of Petaluma and Santa Rosa valleys were under

water; there was a fall of not less than 42 inches, estimating the average of one-fourth more rain here than in San Francisco, where a fall of 33.5 inches is reported.

In 1853-54 the rainfall was 29 inches; in 1854-5, 30 inches; in 1855-6, 25 inches; in 1856-7, 25 inches; in 1857-8, 23 inches; in 1858-9, 23 inches; in 1859-60, 21 inches; in 1860-1, 17 inches; in 1861-2, 46 inches; in 1862-3, 17 inches; in 1863-4, 12 inches; in 1864-5, 26 inches; in 1866-7, 40 inches; in 1867-8, 50 inches; in 1868-9, 26 inches; in 1869-70, 25 inches; in 1870-71, 17 inches; in 1871-2, 40 inches; in 1872-3, 21.58 inches; in 1873-4, 29.54 inches; in 1874-5, 23.30 inches; in 1875-6, 32.10 inches. Mean annual rainfall for twenty-six years, 27 inches.

Our crops have been more often injured by too much, than by too little rain. In the dry years of 1863-4 and 1864-5, enormous crops were raised in this county; while in the greater part of the State there was an absolute failure of crops and grass.

Sonoma county is exempt from malarial disorders. There are no extremes of heat or cold, and nothing like winter. It is probable that more roses and flowers bloom in this valley, in December, than in all the hot-houses of New England. The climate is all that the most fastidious could ask. There are no troublesome insects that prey upon vegetation or humanity. As an evidence of the evenness of the temperature, we will state, in conclusion on this subject, that the same clothing may be worn here the year round, and is not too light for winter or too heavy for summer wear.

THE THERMAL BELT.

There is a warm strata of air in the hills, a few hundred feet above the valleys. This semi-tropical belt varies; in some localities it is very marked, and in others it is much less so. At night during the frosty seasons the cold air settles in the valleys, and the warm air rises. At daylight a severe frost may be seen in the valleys, heaviest along the water-courses, while in the warm belt, a few hundred feet above,—in some cases not more than sixty,—the most delicate shrubs and flowers are untouched. This season the tomato vines were not killed in the warm belt by the frost. The soil on the hills has often great depth, and is admirably adapted to fruit culture. Like the valleys, these lands are covered only by scattered groves of trees, little of it too steep for easy cultivation. It is exactly suited for semi-tropical fruit culture; here oranges, lemons, limes, English walnuts, almonds and pomegranate trees grow well, and yield a certain crop. There are thousands of acres of this kind of land in Sonoma county, which can be bought at from fifteen to twenty dollars per acre. We know orchards where the fruits most sensitive to frost have never yet been injured; where the geranium, the fuchsia and heliotrope will grow out of doors, and blossom in the winter months. Semi-tropical fruits are grown in the valleys, but, excepting the almond and English walnut, not with as much certainty as in the warm belt. The value of the hill lands of Sonoma county is not yet appreciated,—least of all by those who have been longest here.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture cut no figure in the minds of the pioneers, after the discovery of gold in 1848, in their estimates of the probabilities of the future California. Those who had been longest here did not know the capabilities of the soil they occupied; the general impression prevailed that crops could not be raised without irrigation. The old fathers brought that idea with them from Lower California, and had never gotten rid of it. It remained for the Americans, when the first eager thirst for gold was satisfied, to prove that California was to surpass the world in the field of agriculture, horticulture and floriculture, as she had surpassed it in the yellow harvest of her gold fields.

Perchance some miner, when his work was done,
Leaned on his pick, just as the setting sun
With ever-changing hue, and ruddy glow,
Illumed some peaceful vale that slept below,—
And as he gazed, a vision fair arose
Of what the unknown future might disclose;
He saw neat homesteads rise upon the plain,
Around them waving, yellow fields of grain.
He seemed to hear the voice of lowing kine
And bleating flocks, borne upward on the wind.
He saw beyond the vision still unfold,
And California was a land of corn, of wine, and gold.

That the priests did not know the soil would produce without irrigation, is proved by an incident in the history of the founding of the mission of Sonoma by Father Altimira, elsewhere mentioned in this sketch. He camped the second night, after leaving San Rafael, with his party on the arroyo Lema, where the old adobe stands on the Petaluma plain,—now the valuable farm of W. D. Bliss, Esq., of Petaluma. We quote his journal: "We started from Lema on the morning of the 27th, about six o'clock, and explored the plain running east, which is extensive enough for a mission, the land being fertile, and covered with grass, but of little use for plants, requiring irrigation in the summer season, for in that season the springs are dried up, as is also the brook running on said plat, or plain, called Chocaiomi." It would be news to the present owner of the rich and fertile lands around the "old adobe," to hear there was ever a doubt about its producing anything that grows within the boundaries of California, without irrigation.

The first agriculturists in Sonoma county, and north of San Francisco, were the Russians. They planted orchards and vines, and raised and shipped wheat from Bodega bay to Sitka, in the early part of this century. Some of the fruit trees which they planted at Ross, now more than fifty years old, are standing, and bear fruit. They did not cultivate what we regard as our best wheat soil, but, notwithstanding, made heavy annual shipments of grain to their fur-hunters in Alaska.

The next farmers were the priests, and their success proved the wonderful capability of the soil of Sonoma. They founded the mission of San Francisco Solano, at Sonoma, in 1823; and in 1834, eleven years after, an official report credits the mission with three thousand horned cattle, seven hundred horses, four thousand sheep, and the harvest that year as three thousand bushels of

grain. This was the product of the small tract they occupied around the mission in Sonoma valley.

Up to 1851 the few Americans who were in this county raised only what grain they needed for their own consumption, depending mainly on cattle-raising for a support. The earliest trading here was for stock, and nine out of every ten of the civil suits before the first alcalde of Sonoma, ex-Governor Boggs, originated in disputes about cattle or horses. There was a wonderful craving on the part of the Mexicanized-American farmer to own a "manada," a band of worthless mustang mares and colts which run *ad libitum* over the plains.

As late as January, 1853, there were but four or five farmers on the plain opposite to Petaluma. There was quite a settlement in Green valley, and there was also a few stock-raisers on the Russian river, around the "old adobe," on Santa Rosa creek, and at Bodega.

The first considerable export of agricultural products from this county, under the American regime, was in 1850 and 1851, from the port of Bodega. The potatoes raised in that region became famous in the early history of San Francisco, and they have maintained their standing in the market to this day. Uncle Jimmy Watson, in 1850, with his partner, raised a big crop on land rented from Joseph O'Farrell, and realized enormous prices,—in short, he struck that year a potato "bonanza." The potatoes raised in Green valley were shipped, some by Bodega and others by way of the town of Sonoma. In the spring of 1851, William McReynolds paid two hundred and fifty dollars for a ton of potatoes, and planted them on his Green Valley farm. In the spring of that year he built a potato warehouse on Bodega bay for Jasper O'Farrell. In August of the same summer he hauled lumber to the present site of the city of Petaluma, and, in partnership with James M. Hindspeth, put up a warehouse on the bank of the creek. It had been discovered that the produce of Green valley could be shipped cheaper from Petaluma than Bodega. Two small vessels were trading at that point; up to this time they carried only game, of which there was an enormous quantity in this section. Baylis & Flogsdel run one vessel, Linus & Wyatt another. Some hay was cut that fall, baled, and stored for shipment. Game, potatoes and hay were the first articles of export via Petaluma; the former item was perhaps of greater value than both the latter, for a fat buck was worth from an ounce to twenty dollars.

Fruit culture was started very early in the history of the county. Among the very first to engage in this now large and important interest were Mitchell Gillem and Major Sullivan, of Green Valley. They came together to the county in 1850, and thought that it appeared to be a good fruit country.

In 1851 they heard that a man named Weeks had brought out a lot of trees from the East, and had them buried in the sand where the old Zinc House stood, about three and a-half miles north of Petaluma. They purchased about one hundred and fifty trees at one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars a-piece, with Mr. Churchman, of Green Valley, and they were the first orchards planted. For many years after, the profit on these trees was enormous, and fruit culture soon grew into a trade of the first importance, and so continues to

this day. There were, perhaps, a few small orchards in Sonoma valley, prior to the ones we have mentioned, but they produced nothing for export.

From 1852 to 1855 the increase of population was large, and the growth of the agricultural interest was surprising.

In 1855 we can leave the fields of conjecture and give a close approximate estimate of the condition of agriculture in Sonoma county. It so happened that the county that year had a faithful, intelligent and public-spirited assessor, Smith D. Towne, now a leading business man and pioneer druggist in the town of Petaluma. In the first number of the *Petaluma Journal*, issued on the 2d of August, 1855, we find carefully compiled, by Assessor Towne, the statistics of the county. Mendocino was then included with Sonoma.

The number of acres enclosed is reported 37,052, of which 22,400 were in cultivation.

The number of acres in wheat is given at 12,233, which will yield, it is estimated, 28 bushels to the acre. Mr. Towne then recommended the club-head as the best variety to plant, and experience since has proved his sagacity.

The number of acres seeded to oats is given at 3,268, which, it is estimated, will yield 35 bushels to the acre.

BARLEY.—This grain, says the assessor, has few friends this year. Number of acres sown, 1,561; average yield, 35 bushels to the acre.

CORN.—Of this product there are 714 acres, most of which is in the Russian River and Dry Creek valleys, where it seems to flourish luxuriantly. Estimated yield, 40 bushels to the acre.

RYE.—Eight acres planted for an experiment.

BUCKWHEAT.—Ninety-nine acres planted. As yet, none harvested. Cannot estimate the yield.

PEAS AND BEANS, 333 acres.

POTATOES.—The quantity planted this year is 1,693 acres, against 2,600 last year. Probable yield, 40 sacks to the acre. (There was a falling off in the potato crop because many producers had been badly bitten the year before, among whom was the assessor.)

FRUIT TREES.—There are 6,730 set out from one to three years old, comprising apples, peach, pear, apricots, quince, figs and plum, about one-third bearing. "I think," says the assessor, "our county will compare favorably, both as regards quality and quantity of fruits, with any other county in the State."

VINEYARDS.—There are many fine vineyards, numbering, in the aggregate, 24,800 vines, which are loaded with grapes.

CATTLE.—Number milch-cows, 3,350; total cattle of all kinds, 26,250; horses, total number, 4,958; hogs, total number, 19,459; sheep, total number, 7,065.

Now, by way of contrast, we propose to give the figures of the assessor of Sonoma for the year 1876. The reader will please bear in mind that the statistics are, in almost every case, below, rather than above the estimate, as there is always a reluctance on the part of the taxpayer to give information to one who levies or gathers a tax.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, 1876.

Land enclosed—acres, 310,520; land cultivated—acres, 195,575. Wheat—acres 45,000, bushels 800,000; barley—acres 21,213, bushels 424,201; oats—acres 19,597, bushels 587,410; rye—acres 225, bushels 4,500; corn—acres 37,000, bushels 740,000; beans—acres 125, bushels 2,500; potatoes—acres 2,500, tons 6,000; sweet potatoes—acres 120, tons 3,000; hay—acres 43,744, tons 50,000; hops—acres 150, pounds 15,000.

DAIRY PRODUCTS AND WOOL.

Butter, pounds.....	2,125,000
Cheese, pounds.....	250,000
Wool, pounds.....	750,000

FRUIT TREES.

Bearing lemon trees, 372; oranges, 1,994; olive trees, 227; apple trees, 112,376; pear trees, 24,722; peach trees, 57,813; plum trees, 17,467; cherry trees, 12,310; nectarine trees, 1,510; quince trees, 2,100; apricot trees, 1,725; fig trees, 1,000; almond trees, 9,845; walnut—English, 5,300; walnut—black, 800; prune trees, 725; mulberry trees, 625.

THE WINE PRODUCT OF SONOMA COUNTY.

Wine-making is one of the leading industries of Sonoma county. Sonoma Valley is almost wholly devoted to grape-culture; on an average 680 vines are planted to the acre; the yield in grapes is from 10 to 30 pounds to the vine. It takes 14 pounds of grapes to make a gallon of wine. The system of "short pruning" is practised; the vines are cut back to the stump every year, and the finest clusters of grapes often rest on the ground. We give herewith a tabulated statement of the wine and brandy manufactured in the valley of Sonoma last year, with the names of the wine-growers, and estimates for the rest of the county.

A law was passed by Congress last session which permits producers to store their brandy in bonded warehouses and pay the internal revenue duty of seventy cents per gallon when the brandy is sold or withdrawn for consumption. This will largely increase the production.

WINE AND BRANDY MADE IN SONOMA VALLEY FROM THE VINTAGE OF 1876, AND BRANDY THAT WILL BE MADE NEXT YEAR UNDER THE NEW BONDED WAREHOUSE LAW.

[The figures indicate gallons.]

	Wine.	Brandy.	Brandy under new law.
Goess, Geo. A	1,500	.....	.....
Hooper, Geo. F.....	20,000	200	500
Wegener, Julius.....	3,000	20	100
Sonoma Wine & Brandy Co.	160,000	3,500	8,000
Lamotte, Alfred V.....	30,000	.....	500
Gibson, John.....	3,000	.....	.....

	Wine.	Brandy.	Brandy under new law.
Warfield, J. B.....	280,000	.....	10,000
Justi, Charles.....	6,000	.....	200
Clark, John E.....	17,000	.....	5,000
Williams, Jos. A.....	25,000	260	5,000
Whitman, G. W. & H. H...	50,000	.....	2,000
Watriss, Geo. E.....	12,000	.....	300
Mayers, L. W.....	35,000	.....	1,000
Aquillon, C.....	12,000	350	.....
Moorse, E. E.....	200	.....	.....
Bradford, Ward.....	52,000	.....	2,000
Glaister, T. S.....	10,000	.....	100
Haubert, Jacob.....	30,000	.....	.....
Dresel, Julius.....	32,000	.....	300
Winkle, Henry	42,000	.....	500
Ehrlich, F.....	25,000	.....	500
Simon, Jacob.....	3,000	.....	.....
Dominico, A.....	15,000	.....	500
Haraszthy, A. F.....	35,000	200	500
Tichner, Estate of L.....	75,000	700	3,000
Poppe, J. A.....	17,000	350	1,000
Snyder, J. R.....	12,000	200	.....
Weyl & Leiding.....	15,000	1,000	.....
Craig, O. W.....	25,000	2,000	.....
Carriger, N	35,000	1,500	4,000
Rodgers, W. K.....	25,000	800	.....
Chauvet, J.....	10,000	150	3,000
Stewart, Charles V.....	25,000	.....	.....
Gundlach, Jacob.....	95,000	.....	6,000
Hood, Wm.....	80,000	3,000	6,000
Buena Vista Vincult'l Soc.	158,000	4,000	.....
Kochler & Froehlick.....	45,000	4,000	... ..
Wohler, Herman.....	15,000	.....	.....
Wise, Christian	7,000	.....	.....
Winegardner, F.....	8,000	.....	.....
Nau, Thomas	15,000	.....	.....
Asphalt, N.....	4,000	.....	.....
Rommel, C.....	4,000	.....	.....
Steer, G... ..	5,000	.....	.....
Guerne, F.....	15,000	.....	.....
Manning, R.....	2,000	.....	.....
Shaw, James.....	5,000	.....	.....
Total	1,335,700	22,230	60,000

The wine product of Santa Rosa and the Guillicos valleys is about 500,000 gallons.

The wine product of Russian River township is about 400,000 gallons.

The wine product of Mendocino and Washington townships aggregates about 500,000 gallons. The rest of the county 100,000 gallons.

Total wine product of Sonoma county for 1876, 2,535,000 gallons.

LIVE STOCK.

Horses, 9,246; mules, 717; cattle of all grades, 28,154; sheep of all grades, 250,000; common goats, 1,021; Cashmere and Angora, full blood, 500; hogs, 13,701.

MILLS AND FACTORIES.

Grist-mills 10—steam power 3, water power 7; saw-mills 13—steam power 13; lumber, sawed—feet 50,000,000, shingles 10,000,000; woolen mill, 1; boot and shoe factory, 1; Alden fruit dryers, 3; railroads—broad-guage 1, length 70 miles, value \$378,300; narrow-guage 1, length in this county about 25 miles; value \$75,000 per mile.

Registered voters..... 6,000

Estimated population.....40,000

We think the contrast of the above figures with those of 1855 will show a very steady rate of progress for a period of little more than twenty years, and the county has just begun to advance.

Taking the statistics of the assessor, and from other sources, we have made an estimate of the value of the annual products of Sonoma county for the present year. Many of the products here given will largely increase, especially the yield of the forests, for the reason that both railroads have recently been completed to the timber region, and a number of new mills are building.

TIMBER.

Sonoma county possesses one marked advantage over most of the agricultural counties of this State. It has an immense source of wealth in its timber. The great redwood timber-belt commences in Humboldt and reaches down the coast for one hundred and fifty miles, terminating in Sonoma county. From the Valhalla—the north boundary-line of Sonoma—to the mouth of Russian river, the county along the coast is timbered. The timber grows inland from the sea-shore for about eight miles. The reader will see by reference to the map that Russian river turns around the town of Healdsburg, and flows west; just after leaving the valley it enters the timber-region, through which it flows to the sea. A branch of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad leaves the main road at Fulton and runs into this timber, terminating at Guerneville, a lumber-manufacturing centre. The timber in the Russian River bottom is not surpassed on this coast. Fed by the rich alluvial soil, and watered by the annual overflow of the river, the trees grew to an enormous size. Some of them will measure fifteen feet in diameter, and are over three hundred and fifty feet high. They grow to the height of one hundred and fifty feet without lateral branches, the bole of the tree preserving a remarkable uniformity of size. In some cases a single tree has been worked-up into sixty-five thousand feet of lumber, worth at least one thousand dollars. The wood in the tree

standing is valued at two dollars per thousand feet. One hundred and fifty thousand feet to the acre, six million feet on a forty-acre tract, is an average of good land. The very finest timber on the margin of the streams would produce at least eight hundred thousand feet to the acre, and the yield runs downward from that figure to twenty-five thousand feet to the acre.

The redwood belongs exclusively to the foggy coast-regions; south of San Francisco the supply has been cut out, and as it grows nowhere else, either north or south, Sonoma, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties may be said to have a monopoly of this wood, the first in commercial importance on the Pacific coast. Oregon, with her magnificent forests, has none; Puget sound, with a lumber supply incalculable, has no redwood; nor does it grow anywhere on either slope of the Sierra Nevada.

The redwood is a close-grained timber, splits true, and is very light in color, like the Eastern cedar. It works beautifully under the plane, and has the merit of retaining its place and shape without warp or shrinkage. Its durability is unquestioned. Hundreds of miles of redwood fences, built twenty years ago, are yet sound, and attest this fact. For fence-posts and railroad ties it is the best wood known, resisting the action of both air and water with matchless durability.

Sonoma and Mendocino counties furnished the ties for the Central Pacific Railroad. Every Eastern train that crosses the Sierra rolls over the product of the forests of Sonoma. The redwood is also used for ties on the Southern Pacific, and ties from this county are now laid on the desert of the Colorado. They have gone further, having been shipped to South America for that wonderful road which leads from Lima, in Peru, to the summit of the Andes, seventeen thousand feet above the level of the Pacific. Harry Meiggs, who built the road, was once a mill-owner in this county. He remembered the redwood and its valuable properties, and ordered from our forests ties for his railroad up the Andes. The redwood is a creature of the fog. During the summer months the trade-winds blow along the north coast with great regularity. A dense fog banks up some miles from the shore; later in the day the wind increases, and the fog is driven inland. Detached masses first come in like flying squadrons, creeping through the foliage of the tallest trees, crawling over the hill-tops, and down the opposite slopes, filling up the cañons, and soon hill and valley are enveloped in dripping mist.

The foliage of the redwood possesses the peculiar power of condensing this mist and converting it into rain, thus supplying the roots which sustain the mighty bole of the tree with moisture during the long and rainless months of summer. The fog continues through the night, and disappears with the sunrise. This irrigating process is repeated every day during the prevalence of the trades. Few persons can appreciate the grandeur of these redwood forests. Last summer the writer stood upon the summit of the coast range; to the northward lay a sweep of majestic forests unsurpassed on the continent—tier upon tier, range after range of redwoods, until, fifty miles away in the distance, their green crests faded or merged with the colors of the horizon; and could we have compassed the outer bound of vision, beyond, to an equal distance, the eye would have been greeted by unbroken forests.

We now propose to give the number and capacity of the saw-mills of Sonoma county, with an estimate of the amount of standing timber owned by each, commencing with the most northerly mill, coming southward, and thence to the mills on the eastern side of the timber-belt which supplies our local demand. The lumber manufactured on the sea-coast is shipped altogether to San Francisco.

First, we have the Gualala Mill Company, Haywood E. Harmon, superintendent, with a capacity for cutting 30,000 feet of lumber a day.

This company owns about two square miles of timber land on the Sonoma side of the river, averaging about 50,000 feet to the acre, say 75,000,000 feet.

Next we have the Clipper Mill Company with a capacity of 30,000 feet a day; about 3,000 acres of land belong to this company, which will average 40,000 feet to the acre, say 125,000,000 feet.

The Platt Mill Company has a cutting capacity of 30,000 feet a day, and 1,500 acres of land which will average 75,000 feet to the acre, say 112,000,000 feet.

Between the last named mill, which is located at Stewart's point, a shipping place on the coast and Russian river, a distance of twenty miles, there are different bodies of timber, the most valuable of which belongs to G. W. Call, of Fort Ross; it lies north of Black mountain, contains 400 acres, and will yield at least 30,000,000 feet; other lots will aggregate say 100,000,000 feet, a total from Stewart's point to Russian river, of 125 000,000 feet. Total of all timber between the Valhalla and Russian river, 437,000,000 feet.

Duncan's mill, formerly A. Duncan & Co., now Duncan's Mill, Land, and Lumber Company, is building a new mill on the north side of the Russian river at a point where the North Pacific Railroad bridge crosses the river; they own on that side of the river 3,600 acres of land, which will yield a total of say 216,000,000 feet.

The tract of land known as the Moore Brother's tract, now the property of the Russian River Land and Lumber Association, has two mills upon it, the largest with a capacity of 30,000 feet per day; the other, known as Stewart's mill, with a capacity for cutting 20,000 feet per day. This company owns 9,000 acres of land lying south of Russian river, and west of Howard's cañon, upon which there is, say 450,000,000 feet of lumber.

We now propose to give an estimate of the timber in the Bodega district, south of Russian river, and north of Howard's cañon.

Meeker Bros. & Co. have 2,800 acres, upon which there is 170,000,000 feet.

Duncan, Bixby & Co. have 1,100 acres, on which there is 45,000,000 feet.

On the Jonive ranch there is left about 30,000,000 feet; on the Bodega ranch about 20,000,000; J. K. Smith's tract 10,000,000; Latham & Streeten's tract, 10 000,000; scattering outside lands held by various owners, say 60,000,000. Total in the Bodega country and north of Howard's cañon, 345 000,000 feet.

In the timber section opposite Guerneville, on Russian river, R. E. Lewis owns 220 acres of land, which will cut 60,000 feet to the acre; a total of 10,800,000 feet.

The Madrona Company have a tract of land of about 1,000 acres, with an

estimated amount of standing lumber equal to 55,000,000 feet; their mill has a capacity of 35,000 feet per day.

S. H. Torrence has about 60 acres, which will cut, say 60,000 feet to the acre; total, 3,600,000 feet. Henry Beaver has 120 acres which will average 60,000 feet, say 7,200,000 feet; other parties on Pocket cañon, say 15,000,000 feet. Total timber opposite Guerneville, and in Pocket cañon, 33,000,000 feet.

On the north side of Russian river, from Dutch Bill creek to Hurlbut cañon, 700 acres averaged 60,000 feet, equal to a total of 42 000,000 feet. In Hurlbut canon 2,000 acres at 60,000 feet to the acre, 120,000,000 feet. In the Big Bottom, near Guerneville, W. H. Willets has 160 acres of bottom land which will cut 15,000,000 feet. H. T. Hewitt has 160 acres which will cut 10,000,000 feet. R. B. Lunsford has 200 acres, say 12,000,000 feet. Heald & Guerne, beside their Hurlbut-cañon timber, have 360 acres which will average 60,000 feet, a total of 21,600,000 feet; Murphy Bros. 15,000,000 feet; Ike and Tom Smith 120 acres, 60,000 feet to the acre, 7,200,000 feet; J. B. Armstrong 420 acres, 20,000,000 feet; James Pengh 40 acres bottom land, 60,000,000; H. Speckerman 40 acres, say 4,000,000 feet; J. K. Wood, 160 acres, 6,400,000 feet; Henry Miller 200 acres, 60,000 feet to the acre, 12,000,000; S. B. Torrence 20 acres, 150,000 feet to the acre, 3,000,000 feet.

In Elliott cañon, Korbel Bros. own land which will yield 22,000,000; John Beaver 60 acres, which will cut about 5,000,000 feet.

On Mill creek the Marshall timber will cut about 15,000,000 feet.

There are three large saw-mills near Guerneville. Korbel Bros'. mill with a capacity of 30,000 feet a day; Murphy Bros. with a capacity of 30,000 feet; Heald & Guerne's mill with a capacity of about 30,000 feet a day.

In Bodega township there are four mills, Meeker Bros., Ben Joy, and J. K. Smith's, with a capacity each for sawing 15,000 feet of lumber a day, and another mill, owned by Frank Gilford, with a capacity of about 4,000 feet a day. It is estimated by lumbermen that when the timber is cut, cord-wood left standing on the land will make more freight than the lumber did.

The cutting capacity of all the mills in the county, with an estimate of their annual production of lumber is herewith given. The mills are not run more than nine months in the year, and not up to their full capacity.

STEAM SAW-MILLS—CAPACITY—ANNUAL PRODUCT.

Gualala mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	5,000,000
Clipper mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	5,000 000
Platt's mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	5,000,000
Duncan's Mill L. & L. A....	capacity 30,000 feet... annual product...	5,000,000
Russian River L. & L. A...	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product ..	5,000,000
Streeten's mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual prod uct...	4,000,000
Heald & Guerne's mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	4,000,000
Murphy Bros. mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	5,000,000
Korbel Bros. mill.....	capacity 30,000 feet....annual product...	5,000,000
J. K. Smith's mill.....	capacity 12,000 feet....annual product...	2,000,000
Ben Joy's mill.....	capacity 12,000 feet....annual product...	2,000,000

Meeker Bros. mill	capacity 15,000 feet....annual product...	3,000,000
F. Gilford's mill.....	capacity 10,000 feet....annual product...	1,000,000
Madrona mills.....	capacity 35,000 feet....annual product...	6,000,000
Total daily capacity of all mills...		354,000
Total annual product		57,000,000

At this rate of consumption, our timber in reach of the railroads would last for nearly fifty years, and more transportation in cord-wood and tan-bark would be left upon the land than had been hauled off in lumber. An extension of the railroad will of course open up new fields. It is now quite certain that the narrow-gauge road will follow Austin creek from Russian river, cross the divide, and go down the Valhalla. This would open up an immense field not now in reach of market.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF TIMBER BY SECTIONS.

Between Valhalla and Russian river.....	437,000,000
Duncan's Mill, Land and Lumber Co.....	216,000,000
Russian River Land and Lumber Co.....	450,000,000
Bodega country and north of Howard's cañon.....	345,000,000
Opposite Guerneville.....	33,000,000
Hurlbut's cañon, Big Bottom, Elliott's cañon.....	350,000,000
Marshall timber on Mill creek.....	15,000,000
Total number of feet in county.....	1,846,000,000

The reader will bear in mind that there are several million cords of tan-bark and cord-wood, of which no estimate has been made. In estimating the redwood, we have figured on from fifty to sixty thousand feet to the acre; on best bottom lands there are acres that will yield eight hundred thousand feet; on thin land the yield will run as low as twenty-five thousand feet to the acre.

THE HARD-WOODS.

We herewith give a brief description of the other valuable commercial woods which grow in the forests of Sonoma, commencing with the California laurel, a beautiful evergreen which grows in the redwood belt. The wood bears a high polish, and is extensively used as veneer; leaves and wood have a strong aromatic odor. It is a valuable product of the Sonoma forests.

The madrona, one of the most striking of the trees of California, grows abundantly in this section. The bark is a bright red color, and peels off at regular intervals; the new bark is a pea-green color. The wood is hard, and is employed for making shoe-lasts, wooden stirrups, and other articles. It is the handsomest of the forest's trees, but will not bear transplanting.

THE OAKS.

The chestnut-oak, *quercus densi flora*, is abundant in the redwood forests of Sonoma. The bark is rich in tannin; the trees are stripped, and large quantities of the bark are shipped for tanning hides. The price of the bark in San Francisco is from fifteen to seventeen dollars per cord; consumption about one hundred and fifty cords a month. The wood of this tree is used in the manufacture of chairs at the Forrestville and other factories.

The live-oak grows abundantly in this county ; it has little commercial value, except for fuel. The black-oak is found on all the hill-lands in the county, and is the best wood we have for fuel. The burr-oak is the largest and most common of the oaks. It is this tree, with its long pendant branches, that gives to California scenery its peculiar charm. They grow in clusters, and long may they stand to adorn the landscape. A clump of this variety of oaks may be seen in the Plaza of Santa Rosa.

MINES AND MINING INTERESTS.

As early as 1852 there were reported discoveries of gold on Russian river. One of the Kelseys led a prospecting party as far as Eel river. This party discovered and named Eden valley, and Round valley, in Mendocino county, then a part of Sonoma. They, too, first crossed and gave the name Sanhedrin to the grand mountain which overlooks all the beautiful valleys of Mendocino. They met with no great success, and returned, but some members of the party still live in that part of Mendocino county, then first seen by white men. In 1854 reports of gold discoveries on Russian river were revived, but soon died out.

After the discovery and occupation of Geyser springs, the abundant indications of cinnabar in the neighborhood attracted attention. The price of quicksilver at the time was low,—fifty cents a pound; the cost of reduction was great, and the Almaden mine was producing a supply adequate to the demand. For these reasons no especial attention was paid to the indications of mercury everywhere visible on the surface near the Geysers.

In 1859 Colonel A. C. Godwin, then the owner of the Geyser springs, organized a mining district, located a number of claims himself, and a number of others were also taken up. These claims were afterwards consolidated into one or two companies, and some work was done upon them. The low price of quicksilver, the scarcity of labor, and lack of skill in manipulating the ore, led to loss, and finally put a stop to all work on the mines. In 1861 Colonel Godwin, who had given the enterprise most of its life, sold his interest in the springs and mines, and returned to the East. The stock of the consolidated companies went to zero, and the mines were sold at sheriff's sale to satisfy the demand of creditors. Professor Whitney, with a corps of scientists, came along soon afterwards, and, with his "no vein theory" in the coast range, extinguished the last spark of life in mining enterprises in Sonoma, for the time.

From 1861 to 1872 no work was done on the quicksilver mines. In the latter part of 1871, and early in 1872, a lively interest in the mines revived,—quicksilver having advanced to one dollar a pound. Claims in the old district were re-located, roads were built, a mining town sprung up, and at least five hundred men were at work in the district. A lawsuit was commenced between the old and new locaters, which brought to the county-seat of Santa Rosa a number of the most distinguished mining lawyers of the Pacific coast, and learned and eloquent arguments were made, which engaged the court for a prolonged session, creating for the time more excitement than was ever before witnessed in any case in the courts of Sonoma.

Just after the case was settled, quicksilver again fell in the market to fifty cents a pound. This at once checked the work of development, as most of the claimants were prospectors, hoping to pay their way from the products of the mine, and it cost them as much to get the metal out as it would bring in the market. Of the number of claims taken up, two have proved very valuable,—the Oakland and the Cloverdale. The Oakland mine is situated near Geyser peak, which we have elsewhere mentioned. It is at the head of a deep gorge, on the north side of the mountain, known from its wild and sombre depths, as the "Devil's canon." The Oakland, from the opening of the mine, has had good ore, and more than paid its way. It is now working in the three-hundred-foot level, in a seven-foot seam of exceedingly rich ore. The furnace at the mine is a small one,—the product, about two hundred flasks a month, is up to its full capacity, and metal for at least one hundred and fifty flasks more per month is left upon the dump for a time when a larger furnace will be built. The ore is cinnabar, sulphate of mercury, and specimens are found which will retort seventy-five per cent of metal. The average of the ore worked is about four per cent.; lower grade ore is laid aside for the reduction at some future time.

About seven miles from the Geysers, on Sulphur creek, four miles northwest of the Oakland, the Cloverdale mine is situated. The hill in which this mine is located has all the appearance of an extinct geyser. The metal is diffused through the hill, and is found in the country rock, and in fine dust. There is a furnace at this mine, made with the view of working the latter kind of ore, which is rarely found. The Cloverdale is working two hundred flasks of metal per month, with very limited furnace capacity, and its production might be largely increased. It is regarded as one of the most promising mines on the coast.

In a different part of the county, near Guerneville,—the reader can locate the place on the map,—two other valuable mines are located: one is known as the Great Eastern, and the other as the Mount Jackson. They are four miles north of Guerneville. The Great Eastern and Great Western mines were located in the spring of 1874, by Messrs. Gum, Zane and Lewis, of Healdsburg. The two mines are separated only by an intervening cañon, through which a small stream has cut a deep channel. The Western was sold by the locators to a company of Healdsburg gentlemen, and the name was changed to Mount Jackson.

The Great Eastern was leased by the owners to Messrs. Parrott & Co., of San Francisco, who are wealthy merchants and deal largely in quicksilver for the Mexican and South American trade. Their lease was for six years, commencing August 1, 1874. Operations were commenced in September following, and have been steadily continued up to the present time. A bench of retorts was erected in the summer of 1875, which were used to burn the selected ore. The retorts were kept running until the building of the Eames furnace was commenced in 1876. There are ten thousand feet of tunnel in the mine, and five shafts, mainly for prospecting purposes. The ore now worked is taken from a body ten by forty feet in size, in which a shaft has been sunk to a depth of eighty feet into ore averaging about four per cent. mercury. The ore is brought to the furnace

at a cost which does not exceed ten cents a ton, on an incline one hundred and fifty feet long. The monthly production of the mine with an Eames fine-ore rotary furnace, is about two hundred flasks of metal a month. Total amount produced, about one thousand flasks. The mine looks well, and in a few years will produce metal in large quantities.

The Mount Jackson is also a very promising mine. Work was commenced on it in 1873, and has not stopped for a single day. There are two thousand two hundred feet of tunnel in this mine—four furnaces have been built, and four hundred and forty-three flasks of metal have been taken out; of this amount three hundred and fifty have been produced in the last four months. A new tunnel is now under way, which will be six hundred feet long, giving one hundred feet in depth on the ledge. Since first commencing work eighty-five thousand dollars have been expended on the mine. The Mount Jackson will one day fully equal the expectations of its owners.

We have mentioned specially only the four leading mines—there are a number of others which can be worked to advantage whenever the owners are ready to develop them. If the demand would justify it, the quicksilver mines of Sonoma could be made to produce from three to five thousand flasks of mercury a month.

There are a number of very promising veins of copper ore in this county, but none have been sufficiently worked to prove their value.

In many parts of Sonoma county coal indications have been found, but none have been fully developed. There is a ledge near the town of Santa Rosa, in Cotate or Taylor mountain, which is opening with most flattering prospects of success. Coal has been taken from this mine, which is not surpassed by any yet discovered on this coast. The coals of the Pacific are all inferior to the Eastern coals. They are rather a lignite than a true coal. They do not coke but burn to ashes like wood; for domestic and steam use they answer admirably. A company composed of the wealthiest citizens of Sonoma county, with ample capital, has been organized to work Taylor Mountain mine, and there is every reason to believe that we are on the eve of opening up a deposit of coal which will be more valuable than any gold mine in the State. Should coal be added to our products it would soon put Sonoma county in the first rank of manufacturing counties, as it is now first in wine, fruit, dairy, lumber and other products of the soil.

THE GEYSERS.

Among the noted springs and places of interest in Sonoma county, the Geysers are justly entitled to pre-eminence. They are located in the Mayacmas range of mountains, one thousand seven hundred feet above the sea-level. Imagine a clear, bold stream, a rod wide, flowing through a great cañon, with lofty mountains upon either side. Imagine a vast trench, a quarter of a mile long, appropriately called the "Devil's cañon," cutting the mountain, on the east side of the creek, at right-angles; in this trench or cut are the water and steam jets which form the Geysers. The springs, uniting their waters, make up a stream hissing hot, which falls into Pluto creek. We will not attempt a description, further than to say that the sides of this trench are scorched and

burnt, and through its whole length issue whirring steam-jets and boiling water, some of which is black as ink. Standing in the middle of this discord of harsh sounds, and enveloped in a sulphurous vapor, it requires no great stretch of fancy to imagine one has passed from the accustomed order and beauty of nature to the threshold of chaos.

The first known white man that visited these springs was Wm. B. Elliott, in April, 1847, though they were known to the Indians prior to that time. There is a steam spring known as the Indian Sweat-bath, where those of the tribe afflicted with rheumatism were brought and laid upon a scaffold immediately over the spring, and steamed until cured, or death carried them to the hunting grounds of the Great Spirit, where the twisting pangs of rheumatism are unknown.

The first house at the Geysers was built by M. Levy on a beautiful flat just west of the springs. Upon this flat the fearless hunter Elliott, the discoverer of the Geysers, and his son killed a grizzly bear who was inclined to dispute the right of the white man to explore the mysteries of the Devil's cañon. The house which Levy built upon this flat was known as the Old Homestead, and is remarkable for a wild grape-vine on its site, measuring twelve inches in diameter. In 1854 Major Ewing erected a cloth house where the present hotel stands. Levy, finding it a more eligible situation than his own, consolidated his interest with Major Ewing's. After this a saw-mill was brought in, and a part of the hotel now in use was built.

The late Colonel A. C. Godwin, then a merchant in Geyserville, became an owner in the property soon after it was settled. Colonel Godwin was a man of winning manners, and a personal magnetism that attracted all who knew him. Together with him, and another dear friend, deceased, the writer, on his first visit, in 1857, explored the wonders of Geyser canon. After a lapse of years we revisited the same scene with a guide; the associations and surroundings recalled to memory the first owner of the Geysers, and brought forcibly to mind the beautiful words of the poet:

"Many a year is in its grave
Since I crossed this restless wave;
And the evening, fair as ever,
Shines on ruin, rock, and river,
Then on this same stream beside
Stood two comrades, old and tried;
Take O! stranger thrice thy fee,
Take—I give it willingly,
For, invisible to thee,
Spirits twain have walked with me."

The first route to the springs was through Knight's valley to the foot of the mountain, in stages, then on horse-back by a narrow trail over the mountain. W. McDonald, still a resident of Knight's valley, acted as guide. Levy kept the hotel during Mr. Godwin's ownership; he was succeeded by Major Ewing, and Major Ewing by H. Utting. After Mr. Utting the place changed hands nearly every year, and the hotel was kept successively by Coe & Baxter, Clark Foss, and F. H. Coe. In 1866 it was rented by Major Shafer, who kept it

until 1870; he was succeeded by J. C. Susenbeth, who remained there three years. B. S. Hollingsworth was the lessee for the years 1874-5-6 and 7; he was succeeded, in April of this year, by Mr. W. Forsyth, the present proprietor. The first register kept at the springs was in the year 1854, and there are but twenty names upon it. From that time on, the number increased every year until 1875, when three thousand five hundred names were enrolled. The first wagon-road made to the Geysers was from Healdsburg over what is called the Hog's Back ridge. On the 15th of May, 1861, R. C. Flournoy drove a double team and buggy over the new road, and to him belongs the credit of taking the first wheeled vehicle of any kind to the Geyser springs. He was accompanied by a lady, and reached the hotel at eleven o'clock P. M., without breaking a bolt. The main trail to the Geysers was over this road until 1869, when a toll-road was built from Knight's valley, and a stage-line was put on that route. In 1874 the toll-road from Cloverdale up Sulphur creek was built, and opened the following season. Of all the roads to the Geysers, that from Healdsburg, over the Hog's Back, is the most interesting and beautiful; it follows the crest of the high ridge separating the waters of Big and Little Sulphur creeks, passing close under the shadow of Geyser peak, affording a view of the great Russian River valley and the sea beyond, unsurpassed anywhere in its breadth, variety, and beauty. N. W. Bostwick runs passengers through by this route, with first-class vehicles, and in the shortest possible time. There are other roads into the springs from Lake county, and there is also a good trail from Geyserville. The springs can be reached by private conveyance in about three hours' and a-half travel from Santa Rosa.

MINERAL SPRINGS.

SKAGGS' SPRINGS are next in importance and popularity to the Geysers, and are crowded annually by those in quest of health or pleasure from all parts of the Pacific coast. These springs are situated at the head of Dry Creek valley, about eight miles west of the depot of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad at Geyserville. The land upon which they are located was entered in 1856 by William Skaggs, A. Skaggs, and William and John Knight, as a grazing ranch. In the spring of 1857 A. Skaggs bought out his partners, and has since continued sole proprietor.

There are a number of hot sulphur springs at Skaggs' of delicious temperature for bathing. There is also a cold soda and iron spring, a valuable tonic for invalids, but the luxurious baths, which seem to recreate one anew, are the chief attractions of the place. The first regular visitors to Skaggs' came in 1860, the number increased until 1864, when it became apparent that the medicinal properties of the water were fast extending its reputation, and would justify an outlay for permanent improvements, which were at once commenced. The house was open for the reception of guests in 1864 by A. Skaggs; he rented the place in 1867 and resumed control in 1868. In 1869 and 1870 the house was leased by John Leonard, and in 1871 by B. F. Tucker. Perry Emerson kept it in 1872-73, and since that time the springs have been under the management of Mr. Skaggs himself.

A large sum of money has been expended by the proprietor. There are good accommodations for at least three hundred persons in the hotels and the cottages which surround it. There are elegant walks and drives about the grounds, and it is no exaggeration to say that it is the most popular place of resort for families north of the bay of San Francisco.

The largest number of guests the first year the springs were opened, on any one day, did not exceed twenty; now as many as three hundred have registered in a day, and for the season they may be counted by the thousands. The location of the springs will be seen on the accompanying map. To reach Skaggs', passengers may leave San Francisco any day by the morning or evening boat, and in three hours, by steamer and car, arrive at Geyserville, when an elegant four-horse stage awaits the cars. From Geyserville the distance over a beautiful road to the springs is but eight miles, just long enough to give a real zest to the bath, which comes always first and last in order. These justly popular springs grow in reputation every year because they have real merit, and the proprietor does all that can be done for the comfort and pleasure of his numerous patrons.

LITTON SPRINGS are located four miles from Healdsburg, on the line of the railroad. They were improved about two years ago by Captain Litton, the owner, at an expense of \$80,000. There is a very handsome hotel and a number of cottages. The water is an agreeable seltzer, and is bottled and sold in considerable quantities. When better known, no doubt Litton will become a favorite place of resort. We have not heard who has charge of the hotel for this season. These springs may be reached any day by the regular trains of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad.

THE MARK WEST SPRINGS are situated on Mark West creek, about nine miles from Santa Rosa; they are beautifully located in a bend of the creek which forms a romantic little dell surrounded by chapparal hills. These hills during the season display colors as rich as the mountain heather, which has been celebrated in the old country in song and story. It is not overdrawing the picture to say that in mid-summer the little valley in which the springs are located, glows like an emerald set about with opals.

The chief attraction of this spring is its sulphur bath. They are owned by Judge A. P. Overton, of Santa Rosa, and are leased by Mr. Simpson, an experienced popular landlord. Their nearness to Santa Rosa, and the excellence of the baths will always make Mark West springs a favorite and fashionable place of summer resort.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS are situated two miles and a half from Santa Rosa, under the Cotate peak, which overlooks the city. They are owned by John Taylor, and are leased by Mr. Hughes. The place is well improved; the water holds in solution sulphur, soda, magnesia, and iron, and is considered very healing for many of the ills that flesh is heir to. There are also a number of well-fitted bath-rooms supplied with hot and cold mineral water. It is a favorite drive from Santa Rosa to the springs, and they are also patronized by many from abroad.

THE PETRIFIED FOREST.

The petrified forest deserves liberal space in any description of the places of interest in the county of Sonoma. It is a fossil forest of great extent, and not the least of its curious features is its owner, Charles Evans, or Petrified Charley, as he is now called. Charley is a Swede, who was born, well, no matter when, at all events, a long time after St. Helena buried the living forest of which we now have a cast in stone, in scoria from its heart of fire. The only possible connection between Charlie and the volcanic period is that the latter saw the trees buried, and the former exhumed them, and forms the missing link between the past and the present period.

The forest is sixteen miles from Santa Rosa. It was not brought prominently into notice until 1871, when the land was enclosed by the present owner. Professor Whiting visited it, and Sam Brannan had a large rockery at the Calistoga springs from fragments hauled from the forest. A number of persons came out to see the trees, and this induced Evans to clear away the brush and excavate the most accessible of the trees, doing a little more every year; he then enclosed the land, and charges a small fee, as guide, to repay him for his labor. The trees lie in two tiers, forming a parallelogram, a mile in extent, from east to west, and about a quarter of a mile across, from north to south,—the roots are towards the north and tops to the south. They lie at an angle of from five to thirty-five degrees; the butt end of the trees are always lowest. They are buried in volcanic ashes or tufa, and the ground around them fairly sparkles with particles of silica. The largest tree excavated is eleven feet in diameter at the root, and is sixty-eight feet long. It is broken in several places. The forest has been visited by about ten thousand persons in the past six years, and all who have been there express themselves as well repaid for their time and trouble. The forest can be reached and examined thoroughly in a day from Santa Rosa by J. P. Clark's Calistoga stage-line. Those visiting the Geysers by the Cloverdale route will be taken to the forest by Foss' line of stages from the Geysers to Calistoga. For the first six years the owner put in all his time in improving the grounds, and it is admitted to be, in the language of Mr. Evans, "the prettiest place in the hills of California."

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first State superintendent of public schools, John G. Marvin, reported to the legislature of 1852 the statistics he had been able to gather in the year 1851. Following is his report of Sonoma county in full: Number of children, 250. There are five schools in this county: one at Sonoma, one at Santa Rosa, one at Anay, one at Bodega, and another at San Miguel Ranch (Mark West). The three former are English, the latter is Spanish. They are supported by contributions and tuition money.

In 1854 Dr. B. B. Bonham, first county superintendent of schools, reports 1,253 children between the ages of 4 and 18; 23 schools; 31 teachers, and 8 school districts.

In 1859 the total number of children is reported at 5,138; number of teachers, 70; number of schools, 43. There are now in the county 138 schools and a school-population of 7,383. Of this population, 3,689 are boys, and 3,611

are girls. The schools are comprised within their grades; first, second and third—there being 50 of the first; 58 of the second, and 30 of the third. The total enrolment of pupils at the school is 6,217.

Between eighty-five and ninety thousand dollars are annually received from State and county taxes for school purposes. Of this amount between seventy-five and eighty thousand dollars are annually expended in the payment of teachers. About \$3,000 is annually invested in school libraries. The average monthly wages paid male teachers is \$83.00; paid female teachers, \$64.00.

Ninety-one of the schools are maintained more than six, and less than eight months; 47 are maintained eight months and over. The most of the school-houses are substantial, comfortable structures, well supplied with school furniture, apparatus and libraries. The value of the school-houses and lots is estimated at \$150,000; school libraries, \$12,000; apparatus, \$4,000. The most important schools are those of Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Healdsburg, Sonoma and Cloverdale. The cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, in addition to a most efficient grammar school, have each an excellent high school.

Number of children between five and seventeen, white....	7,300
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ negro....	10
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ Indian...	73
“ “ white children under five.....	3,076
“ “ children who have attended public school during the school year.....	5,407
Number attending private schools.....	413
Number who have not attended any school.....	1,563
Whole number of school districts.....	95
“ “ “ schools.....	138
“ amount paid teachers during the year.....	\$75,320.00
“ “ “ for rents, repairs and contingents.....	8,400.00
“ “ “ “ libraries.....	2,185.35
“ “ “ apparatus	408.06
Amount paid for buildings and school furniture.....	7,137.18
Total receipts from State and county fund.....	84,676.90
“ “ “ district taxes.....	5,269.24
“ “ during the year, including balance on hand at beginning of the year.....	115,490.20
Total disbursements.....	93,452.00

Salary of superintendent, inclusive of traveling expenses, \$1,600 per annum.

CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTY.

There is, perhaps, no county in the State of California that can boast of as many houses of worship as Sonoma, unless it be San Francisco. There are in all forty-three, and these are well distributed over the county.

The first Protestant church was built in the town of Sonoma by the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in the year 1852, under the late Rev. E. B.

Lockley. It was a small Gothic church of great beauty. It cost about three thousand dollars, and it was burned a few years ago.

The next year another was built by the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the same town, that is still standing. About the same time Rev. M. Riley, of the Baptist church, built a house of worship at the site of the old town of Franklin, near Santa Rosa. This house was regarded as a Union church for the Hardshells and the Missionary Baptists. It was subsequently moved to Santa Rosa, and used by the Baptists until they erected their present house, when it was converted into a double tenement-house and as such it now stands.

Of the forty-five churches now standing the Methodist Episcopal Church owns twelve; the Catholic, six; the Methodist Episcopal Church South, six; the Presbyterian, four; the Baptist, three; the Congregationalists, three; the Christian (Campbelite), three; the Adventist, three; the Protestant Episcopal, two; the Cumberland Presbyterian, one; the colored people, one; and one is owned jointly by the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the Baptist and Christians. They are distributed as follows; Santa Rosa has eight; Petaluma, seven; Healdsburg, seven; Sonoma, three; Bodega Corners, three; Bloomfield, three; Cloverdale, two; Sebastopol, two; Green Valley, one; Pleasant Hill, one; Valley Ford, one; Two Rocks, one; Howard's Station, one; Bennett Valley, one; Guerneville, one; Fulton Station, one; Macedonia, one; Windsor, one.

We do not give the assessed value of the church property because the figures on the assessors' books are much below the real value. The inhabitants generally are a moral, law-abiding people, who contribute liberally to the support of the churches in their midst.

Long before any of the churches here mentioned were built or thought of, the chime of bells in the Greek chapel at Ross floated out over the waters of the Pacific.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The public buildings of Sonoma county are not worthy of much, if any, notice. The court house was built in 1859, and answers the purpose for which it was intended, and that is all that can be said of it.

The recorder's office is pronounced a very creditable building; it stands by itself, and was erected in 1871-2, and is a neat, substantial, if not elegant structure. It is entirely fire-proof, and the valuable records of the county within its walls are free from danger.

The county possesses two institutions of which the people may justly feel a pride; we refer to the hospital and county farm. Both of the institutions are well managed, and in the hospital all the comforts which could be asked are furnished to the indigent sick of the county. The hospital and county farm are directly under the control of Dr. J. B. Gordon. William Strom, a most excellent person for the special duties required, is steward of the hospital, and the manager of the county farm is Robinson Head.

The number of persons admitted to the hospital during the year was 177; discharged cured 152, died 20, remaining January 1st, 1877, 31; county farm, whole number January, 1876, 13; admitted during the year 12, discharged 13; number remaining January 31st, 1877, 12.

RAILROADS.

THE SAN FRANCISCO AND NORTH PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad, which runs through the great central valleys of Sonoma, has been so fully described in the main body of this sketch, that any special mention is not necessary. The road was commenced in 1869, and was completed to its present terminus at Cloverdale in 1872, and from that time to the present the progress of the county has been upward and onward. The road is one of the most complete in the State in all its appointments, and reflects credit on its builder and upon its management.

Colonel Peter Donahue is president of the company. He was the builder of the road, his attention having first been called to the work by the Hon. A. P. Overton, a prominent citizen, now of Santa Rosa. With that rare business tact for which Colonel Donahue is distinguished, he saw that a necessity existed for the road, and enlisting in the enterprise, he pushed it to success with the indomitable determination which is a well-known characteristic of the man. To that enterprise, which has placed Colonel Donahue in the foremost rank of the business men of the great metropolis of the Pacific coast, we owe our excellent facilities for communication with San Francisco. When others faltered or drew back, he pressed to the front. His business sagacity and capital proved the "open sesame" which smoothed and made straight our highway to the sea, over which the varied products of Sonoma county are transported (a rich tribute) to his adopted city, San Francisco.

The road is now extending south of its first terminus, Donahue, which will greatly shorten the time to Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Litton, and Skaggs' Springs, Cloverdale and the Geyser springs. When that is done, one may go from San Francisco to the northern limits of Sonoma county in not more than three hours, through the most fertile and beautiful portion of the great State of California.

Colonel A. A. Bean, the manager of the road, is an accomplished gentleman and superintendent, and to him is largely due the very great satisfaction and success which marked the progress and management of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad.

NORTH PACIFIC COAST RAILROAD.

The North Pacific Coast Railroad extends from a point in Marin county, opposite San Francisco, through that county into Sonoma, and terminates at Duncan's Mill, on Russian river. Milton S. Latham is president of the company, W. F. Russell is secretary and general agent, John W. Doherty is general manager, W. B. Price is auditor and general passenger agent, C. B. Mansfield is assistant superintendent, and J. W. Fillmore train despatcher.

The road was first opened in January, 1875. Freight cars cross the bay of San Francisco on barges to the opposite shore at Saucelito, the land terminus of the road, a distance of six miles; or, reversing the order, they carry the freight-laden cars from the terminus to the city. Each barge has a capacity for twelve loaded cars, making a very great saving in transporting freight.

The road has a second terminus on the bay of San Francisco, at San Quentin, by a branch road, which leaves the main line two miles north of the town of San Rafael. The Saucelito terminus is used for freight business, while the

San Quentin terminus is used principally for the passenger business. This latter terminus is connected with San Francisco, a distance of about nine miles, by two elegant ferry boats, built in New York exclusively for this line, and for travel between the city of San Francisco and San Rafael.

The road is a narrow-gauge, being three feet between the rails; leaving San Rafael, the road runs through Marin county, passing Ross valley, by Fairfax and Pacheco, to the summit, known as White Hill, at the head of Ross valley. The grade in this ascent is one hundred and twenty-one feet to the mile, and so doubles back upon itself that in one instance the tracks are not one hundred yards apart after traversing a distance of three-fourths of a mile.

At the summit the road passes through a tunnel thirteen hundred feet long, and descends into the valley of San Geromino creek to Nicasio, and from there to Tomales. The route to this point is through a splendid dairy country, and, for all those rare beauties of scenery peculiar to California, it can nowhere be surpassed.

For a year and a half the northern terminus of the road was at Tomales, fifty-four miles from Saucelito. The entrance to Sonoma county was barred, as it were, by a wall of solid rock, through which it was necessary to cut a tunnel seventeen hundred feet in length. The men who formed this company were not to be deterred by obstacles even as formidable as this rocky barrier; they pierced it, and soon the hills which enclosed the fertile valleys of southwestern Sonoma echoed the steam-whistle of the approaching locomotive.

The road was finished to its destined terminus on Russian river in the winter of 1876-7. Just before reaching Valley Ford (we refer the reader to the map) the road crosses the Estero Americano, and enters Sonoma county, passing Valley Ford, a pretty village: but just why its church should have been built across the line in Marin county, is beyond our ken. Steaming north, we pass Bodega Corners depot, and next Freestone, of which a description appears elsewhere. Just beyond Freestone the road enters the redwood timber belt, ascends Salmon creek by a steep grade to Howard's station; crossing there the summit of the divide between the waters which fall, on the south, into Bodega bay, and on the north into Russian river. Just before reaching Howard's the road passes over one of the highest bridges west of the Mississippi river. The bridge is one hundred and thirty-seven feet high. At Howard's we have fairly entered the redwood timber fields, and begin to realize the ultimate aims of the projectors of this enterprise, and the business it is destined to develop. Up to the fall of 1876 there were only three small saw-mills on or near the line of the road, and the great expense of hauling made them available only for the local trade. It has been but nine months since the road was completed, and there are now on the line of the road six large saw-mills, sending to market daily one hundred and seventy-five thousand feet of lumber, besides great quantities of shingles, lathes, pickets, cord-wood, tan-bark and charcoal.

Streeten's mill is owned by Latham & Streeten; has a capacity of fifteen thousand feet per day; has about one thousand acres of land; employs forty men. The Russian River Land and Lumber Company is owned by Governor Milton S. Latham, the largest owner of timber-land in this section, having ten thousand acres in one body. From Streeten's mill to Duncan's, with the ex-

ception of two miles, the road passes through its land. It owns all the timberland on the old Bodega Rancho that lies in Ocean township. Its two mills—the Tyrone mill and the Moscow mill (at Moscow),—have each a capacity of forty thousand feet per day. Each mill employs from eighty to ninety men, and in the logging for both mills about sixty cattle are employed. The logs are hauled to the mill by small locomotives, on tramways laid with railroad iron. The lumber, as at all the six saw-mills, is loaded directly on the cars, and not rehandled until delivered at the wharf in San Francisco. The saving of labor expense and breakage, from this fact alone, will at once be appreciated by any one familiar with the lumber business.

The next mill below is one of the mills of the Madrona Land and Lumber Company, near the intersection of Howard creek with Russian river. This company has about one thousand acres of land, and the mill has a capacity of twenty thousand feet per day, employing fifty men. A branch tract runs three-fourths of a mile up the Russian river to another mill of this company, having a capacity of twenty-five thousand feet per day, and employing sixty men.

Following down the Russian river we pass the Moscow mill (already mentioned), and cross the river on the four-hundred-foot bridge to Duncan's mill. Mr. A. Duncan, the senior proprietor, is the oldest lumberman on this river. He owns four thousand acres of land, principally on Austin creek, which empties into Russian river opposite Moscow. Duncan's mill has a capacity of thirty-five thousand feet per day, and employs seventy-five men.

It is estimated that the lands owned by these parties will produce six hundred million feet of lumber.

Immediately upon the completion of the road, the southern terminus of the northern coast stages for Stewart's Point, Gualala, Mendocino City, Point Arena, and Navarra Ridge, was changed to Duncan's Mill, making a great saving in time for all the northwest coast.

A description of this road would be incomplete without referring to the great inducements it offers to pleasure-seekers and sportsmen. It is not a sufficiently strong assertion to say that no route of eighty miles out of San Francisco offers such a variety of beautiful scenery. Moscow and Duncan's Mill, (opposite on the river,) are two charming spots, and as picturesque as any in the State. The ocean winds, tempered by the distance of seven miles up the Russian river, prevail all through the summer. Here are to be found the finest fishing and shooting. Austin creek is one of the notable trout streams in the State; quail abound; deer are still in the forests and glades. Salmon can be caught in large numbers in the river. One can leave San Francisco early in the morning, and at one o'clock in the afternoon arrive at Moscow for dinner—spend a day, and, leaving the next morning, be back in San Francisco at noon. The largest hotel to be found in the county, (120 by 70 feet, two stories), is kept by John Julian, one of the most accomplished and popular landlords in California. He possesses that rare faculty of making everybody feel as though *he* was the most favored of all the numerous guests; consequently everybody is especially well pleased, and contented with himself and his host.

If you make the trip over the narrow-gauge, don't stop short of Julian's, whatever else you may do.

The railroad company and the hotels do everything to encourage pleasure travel, and we predict for this locality the preference over any other within as easy reach of San Francisco.

To those who knew the cañon of Howard's creek and the valley of Russian river only a year ago, the change in that time will appear marvelous; the mills, with their little villages around them; the rapidly-growing towns of Moscow and Duncan's Mill, and the influx of population can hardly be appreciated by a single visit,—much less can they be described within the scope of a sketch so brief as this.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

Sonoma county covers a large area of territory. In the mountains, a number of large streams rise, flow across the plains, or through the valleys, to tide-water, emptying either into the Pacific ocean or into the bay of San Pablo. At least three estuaries lead inland, two of them forming, at high tide, navigable streams. One of the inland streams (Russian river) has its source in the high mountains of Mendocino, more than one hundred miles from its mouth, draining an immense territory. In winter, during the wet season, this is a very bold stream. With so large a scope of country, traversed by so many streams, the matter of building roads and bridges was, from the organization of the county, of great importance and great expense. With the exception of the subsidy voted by the people to the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad, and twenty thousand dollars bonds for a recorder's office, the whole indebtedness of the county comes from the building of roads and highways. We now propose to give the reader an idea of the approximate cost of the public roads, number of miles of roads, number of bridges, and their cost by townships.

Analy township—miles of road, 111; bridges, 131; cost of bridges, \$27,000; culverts, 275; cost, \$2,439.

Bodega township—miles of road, 46; bridges, 50; cost, \$5,091.

Cloverdale township—miles of road, 35; bridges, 11; cost, \$6,125; culverts, 37; cost, \$305.

Knight's Valley township—miles of road, 22; bridges, 15; cost, \$745; culverts, 13; cost, \$78.

Mendocino township—miles of road, 81; in this township Russian river is bridged twice; cost of bridges, \$31,450; cost of culverts, \$1,000.

Petaluma township—miles of road, 80; bridges, 82; cost, \$8,652; culverts, 312; cost, \$2,218.

Russian River township—miles of road, 64; bridges, 47; cost, \$3,212. There are, also, on the line of this township four bridges across Mark West creek, which cost \$6,700; culverts, 75; cost, \$750.

Redwood township—miles of road, 27; bridges, 30; cost, \$1,748; culverts, 19; cost, \$599.

Sonoma township—miles of road, 80; bridges, 2; cost, \$9,900; culverts and small bridges, 208; cost, \$4,028.

Ocean township—miles of road, 30; bridges, 14; cost, \$4,050; culverts, 60; cost, \$600.

Salt Point township—miles of road, 44; bridges, 43; cost, \$5,700; culverts, 72; cost, \$575.

Vallejo township—miles of road, 55; bridges, 10; cost, \$3,000; culverts, 30; cost, \$200.

Washington township—miles of road, 11; bridges, 8; cost, \$540; culverts, 14; cost, \$104.

Santa Rosa township—miles of road, 146; bridges, 115; cost, \$32,850; culverts, 224; cost, \$4,500.

Recapitulation: Total number of miles of road, 832; number of bridges, 629; cost of bridges, \$130,940; culverts, 1,524; cost, \$18,422. Total cost of all bridges and culverts in the county, \$149,783.

Many of these bridges have been repeatedly washed away, and were repaired at a cost as great, or greater, than their present value; add to that the expense of grading, filling up, and making the road-bed for nearly two hundred miles, and some idea of the outlay on our highways may be formed.

The roads each year improve; road-building goes constantly on, and will not be discontinued until every portion of the country is easily accessible.

There are but two toll-roads in the county, and both are through its mountainous sections, and lead to the Geysers. These roads are not traveled to any extent except by those whose object is recreation, curiosity, or pleasure, and, as they are generally persons who can afford to pay, the burden of keeping the road to the Geysers in repair is very properly shifted to their shoulders.

THE COURTS OF SONOMA COUNTY,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO 1877.

The seventh judicial district, which included the county of Sonoma, was organized in 1850. The first district judge was Robert Hopkins; he was elected at the first session of the legislature, which convened in San Jose in 1850. Judge Hopkins held the first term of the court in the town of Sonoma, on the second day of September, 1850. He held the office of district judge until 1853, when he was succeeded by E. W. McKinstry, now one of the supreme judges of the State.

Judge McKinstry served until 1862. After the November term of that year he resigned, and James B. Southard was appointed in his stead by Governor Stanford, for the unexpired term. Judge Southard served until the February term, 1870, when he was superceded by Judge W. C. Wallace, who had been elected the previous year. Judge Wallace served one full term and was re-elected in 1875, but the legislature of the winter of 1875-6 created the twenty-second district out of the counties of Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino. Judge Wallace still presides in the seventh district, and Judge Jackson Temple was appointed by Governor Irwin the first judge in the new district, and held the first term of his court in Sonoma county on the 2d day of May, 1876.

THE COURT OF SESSIONS.

The Court of Sessions first met in the town of Sonoma in 1850. H. A. Green was county judge, and Charles Hudspeth and Peter Campbell were chosen associate justices. This court, beside their judicial powers, had control of the county business; they provided buildings for public purposes, and first divided the county into townships. Some time in 1851, Judge Green died, and Martin E. Cooke was appointed in his place. Mr. Cooke declined to serve, and W. O. King was appointed, and held one term of the court. The same fall the Hon. C. P. Wilkins was elected by the people as county judge. In 1852 Peter Campbell and J. M. Terrill were elected associate justices.

October 3d of the same year, Phil. R. Thompson and A. C. Godwin were elected in place of the first named persons, whose terms expired.

In 1854 Judge Wilkins resigned, and Phil. R. Thompson was appointed in his place; J. B. Boggs and J. B. Pettus were elected associate justices.

In 1854 Frank W. Shattuck was elected county judge, he resigned in 1855, and John E. McNair was appointed in his place; Phil. R. Thompson and J. E. Prewett were associate justices.

In the fall of 1855, William Churchman was elected county judge, and James A. Reynolds and S. T. Coulter were chosen as associate justices.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

The first board of Supervisors met in the town of Sonoma on the 5th of July, 1852. D. O. Shattuck, Sr., was elected president, James Singley, W. A. Hereford, L. P. Hanson were the other members. Hanson appears on the record at but one meeting, and on the 4th of October, W. O. King succeeded him.

1853-4, H. G. Heald, James Singley, S. L. Fowler and Alexander Copeland were elected. At first meeting of the new board, James Singley was chosen president.

1854-5, H. G. Heald, president, succeeded, December 28, by Robert Smith, R. Harrison, S. L. Fowler and Alexander Copeland.

1855-6, Donald McDonald, president, Stephen Akers and William T. Allen.

1856-7, James Prewitt, president, B. B. Berry and C. J. Robinson.

1857-8, W. B. Hagans, president, R. Smith and Josiah Morin. In January, 1858, at a special election, Joseph Knowles was elected in place of R. Smith.

1858-9, Alex. Copeland, president of the board, J. Morin and J. Estis. January 26, 1859, E. Swift was elected *vice* Copeland, and Josiah Morin was chosen President.

1859-60, Josiah Morin, president, W. McP. Hill and H. M. Willson.

1860-61, H. M. Willson, president, Josiah Morin and W. McP. Hill.

1861-2, William McP. Hill, president, N. Fike, Josiah Morin.

1862-3, Josiah Morin, president, N. Fike, T. F. Baylis.

1863-4, N. Fike, president, T. F. Baylis and A. S. Patterson.

- 1864-5, T. F. Baylis, president, J. K. Smith and A. B. Aull.
 1865-6, J. K. Smith, president, A. B. Aull and Zadock Jackson. March 5,
 1865, Zadock Jackson was superceded by G. W. Frick.
 1866-7, J. K. Smith, president, A. B. Aull and G. W. Frick.
 1867-8, G. W. Frick, president, J. K. Smith and John D. Grant.
 1868-9, J. K. Smith, president, J. D. Grant and B. B. Munday.
 1869-70, J. D. Grant, president, J. H. Griggs and J. M. Palmer.
 1870-71, J. D. Grant, president, J. H. Griggs and J. M. Palmer.
 1871-2, J. H. Griggs, president, J. M. Palmer and D. D. Phillips.
 1872-3, J. M. Palmer, president, D. D. Phillips, G. A. Tupper.
 1873-4, J. M. Palmer, president, G. A. Tupper, D. D. Phillips, W. K. Rogers,
 Thomas Beacom.
 1874-5, G. A. Tupper, president, W. K. Rogers, Thomas Beacom, Gus.
 Warner, J. D. Hassett.
 1875-6, W. K. Rogers, president, Thomas Beacom, J. D. Hassett, Gus. War-
 ner, H. Weatherington.
 1876-7, J. D. Hassett, president, W. K. Rogers, H. Weatherington, Gus.
 Warner, R. W. Acker.

SONOMA COUNTY FINANCES.

Total value of assessable property for the year 1876-7, after
 equalization \$15,242,248 00

State and county tax for 1876-7, \$1.65 per \$100, distributed as follows :
 State tax 73½ cents, of which 23 4-10 is for school purposes.

County pays to State for taxes \$112,330 52

County tax 91 5-10 cents, distributed to funds as follows: General fund, 19
 cents; indigent fund, 5 cents; school fund, 14½ cents; road fund, 27 cents;
 railroad fund, 13 cents; road fund tax, 4 cents; bridge-fund tax, 9 cents.

Total revenue from taxes:

State apportionment.....	\$112,330 52	
County apportionment.....	139,466 59	
	<hr/>	\$251,797 09

LIABILITIES.

The county indebtedness is as follows:

Railroad bonds bearing 8 per cent., payable in twenty years, interest payable January 1.....	\$263,000
Hall of Record bonds, 7 per cent., twenty years, interest payable semi-annually.....	20,000
Road bonds, 8 per cent., ten years, interest annually March 1.....	91 800
	<hr/>
Total indebtedness.....	\$374 800
Value of county buildings and property.....	200,000

VALUE OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY BY TOWNSHIPS.

TOWNSHIPS.	Amount of Money.	Value of Personal Property.	Value of land.	Value of Improvements.	Value of Town Lots	Value of Improvements.	Total Value.
Analy.....	\$10,388	\$186,680	\$888,033	\$160,545	\$20,095	\$34,185	\$1,299,926
Bodega.....	2,589	133,593	445,155	55,900	5,480	14,825	657,542
Cloverdale.....	800	99,145	109,148	56,115	17,790	60,025	343,023
Knight's Val'y	425	24,002	58,633	18,360	615	2,225	104,260
Mendocino.....	19,010	259,286	548,455	186,365	178,970	179,755	1,371,841
Ocean.....	2,400	50,258	164,187	44,800	100	200	261,945
Petaluma.....	36,239	430,456	1,109,690	301,432	388,602	410,131	2,676,553
Redwood.....	760	41,440	74,315	25,100	5,850	14,170	161,635
Russian River.	920	86,247	452,226	120,395	6,760	8,017	674,565
Salt Point.....	500	108,954	180,962	55,945	31,550	.....	377,911
Sonoma.....	6,848	382,915	869,116	268,240	27,920	78,385	1,633,454
Santa Rosa.....	42,995	545,185	1,436,572	399,980	579,765	554,845	3,559,342
Vallejo.....	6,260	156,304	979,264	148,500	10,920	8,885	1,310,145
Washington....	2,350	53,305	217,521	48,840	6,145	5,025	333,186
Totals.....	\$132,484	\$2,547,500	\$7,531,277	\$1,890,517	\$1,280,562	\$1,370,686	\$14,766,326

San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad, including track.....	404,590
Mining claims and improvements, possessory claims, etc.....	144,117

Total value of all property..... \$15,315,033

LAND AS GRADED BY THE ASSESSOR.

The assessor classifies the lands of Sonoma county into four grades. The first grade, mountain land, is least valuable; the second grade is hillside land; the third grade is valley land; the fourth grade is bottom land, which is the richest and most valuable.

Number of acres in first grade.....	226,981
Number of acres in second grade.....	100,341
Number of acres in third grade.....	165,929
Number of acres in fourth grade.....	234,510
Total.....	727,761

ACTUAL CASH VALUE PER ACRE.

First grade.....	\$1 to \$5
Second grade.....	5 to 10
Third grade.....	10 to 20
Fourth grade.....	20 to over

AVERAGE CASH VALUE PER ACRE.

First grade.....	\$2 50
Second grade.....	7 50
Third grade.....	15 00
Fourth grade.....	30 00

TOTAL ACTUAL CASH VALUE.

First grade.....	\$552,210
Second grade.....	791,099
Third grade.....	2,361,391
Fourth grade.....	3,826,577
Total.....	\$7,531,277

TOTAL CASH VALUE OF EACH KIND OF PROPERTY.

Real estate other than city or town lots.....	\$7,531,277
Improvements on same.....	1,890,517
City and town lots.....	1,280,562
Improvements on same.....	1,370,686
Real estate and improvements.....	<u>\$12,073,042</u>

RECAPITULATION OF TOTALS.

Real estate and improvements.....	\$12,073,042
Personal property.....	2,762,758
Improvements on mining claims, etc.....	479,283
Total value of all property.....	<u>\$15,315,033</u>

THE CITY OF SONOMA.

The early history of the city of Sonoma is the history of the county. It is inseparably connected with the stirring events which led to the occupation of this State by the Americans. For a long time it was a place of the first importance. Here General Percifer Smith made his headquarters. Captain, afterwards General, Lyon, Lieutenant, afterwards General Stoneman, General Leonard, General Hooker, and the inimitable Lieutenant Derby, were all former residents of Sonoma. Its society was polished and intellectual, and could the unwritten records of the old town be brought to light, it would in itself make up a volume of extraordinary interest.

Though surrounded by an intelligent and wealthy population, the town has not flourished, as has been elsewhere stated in this sketch. It has, however, good schools, a bank, several large wine manufactories, four large stores—two of which are kept respectively by the pioneers, Pauli Brothers and J. Poppe. The old mission church still stands, and there are besides several other churches. It has good hotels, an I. O. O. F. and Masonic lodge. General M. G. Vallejo, the distinguished ex-commandant general of California under the preceding regime, resides at his elegant home, Lachryma Montis, on the edge of the town. All honor to the gallant general, who was at the cradling of Sonoma in 1835. All honor to the pioneers who raised the Bear flag on the plaza of Sonoma, and all honor to the ever-memorable old town which was the scene of the first in the series of events which led to the acquisition by the United States of the fairest of the sisterhood of States, with its rich dower of valley land yielding one hundred fold, and uplands eager for the tap of the absorbing vine, and mountains rich in gold as the hills of Ophir.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER.

The Sonoma Bulletin.—Sonoma county made a clever start in its newspaper history. The *Sonoma Bulletin* was established in the town of Sonoma in 1850 by A. J. Cox. It was a very lively sheet for several years, and would have done credit to a much later period in the history of the State. Contributions from the inimitable Derby and other army officers stationed at Sonoma, were not infrequent in its columns.

The paper was continued at intervals up to 1855, when the editor, in a characteristic notice in the *Petaluma Journal* of September 15, 1855, announces its final demise as follows: "Hon. Q. Smikes wishes to return his thanks to the editorial fraternity for the kind notices of his debut, and to the public generally (the rest of mankind included) for their liberal patronage, and to announce that the Blunderbuss has dried up." Of Mr. Cox's newspaper experience more will be said hereafter.

ST. LOUIS OR EMBARCADERO.

This, as its name implies, is the landing-place or embarcadero on Sonoma creek, at the head of navigation. Here supplies for the town and valley are received. In former times, when it was thought that Sonoma might become a town of importance, it was christened St. Louis, but it never reached the importance anticipated by its sponsors, and is, to-day, only the landing and shipping point for the town and valley of Sonoma, by a steamer which plies regularly between the landing and San Francisco.

GLEN ELLEN.

This is a post-office midway between Santa Rosa and the town of Sonoma; Captain Justi is postmaster. It is only a mail station, but is surrounded by some of the most experienced vine-growers in the county,—among them Colonel C.V. Stuart, whose handsome residence is the seat of a liberal hospitality. His vineyard cannot be surpassed for careful culture and its varieties of foreign and domestic vines. Here there is also the residence of the Hon. J. B. Warfield, one of the most successful vineculturalists of Sonoma. There are many other large vineyard proprietors in this neighborhood, whose names we have not the space to mention. A radius of six miles, with Glen Ellen for a center, would, in the opinion of many, include the finest grape-growing section in the State of California.

KELLOGG.

This place is situated in Knight's valley, at the foot of St. Helena mountain. The Knight's Valley House is kept by E. Ewing, as a place of summer resort. It is not surpassed for beauty of scenery, salubrity of climate, and solid comforts, by any place of the kind in this State.

The Steele Brothers are the owners of the Knight's Valley ranch, which includes about seven thousand acres, upon which the Knight's Valley House stands. Next, adjoining them, is the fine estate of Calvin Holmes, a portion of the original Rancho de Mallacomes, which formerly included the whole of Knight's valley. The fine farm of George Hood, Esq., of Santa Rosa, lies near Kellogg, and was also formerly a portion of the Knight's Valley tract.

FOSSVILLE.

This is a station between Kellogg and Calistoga, named after, and owned by Clark Foss, the driver of the stage to the geysers. It is a hostelry, and is furnished with every convenience and elegance which the most fastidions could

ask. There is a post-office here, and it is near the line dividing Napa and Sonoma counties, in what is known, and marked on the maps, as Knight's valley.

DONAHUE.

This place is located on Petaluma creek, about eight miles below the town of Petaluma. It is the present terminus of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad; the cars at this point connect with the swift and elegant steamer James M. Donahue for San Francisco. From Donahue to San Francisco, across the bay, the distance is twenty-five miles,—the steamer makes it in an hour and a-half. The town is called after Colonel James M. Donahue, the enterprising builder and principal owner in the railroad. Here the machine-shops of the company are located. The place has no importance other than is derived from the fact that the transfer of passengers and freight from cars to steamer, or *visa versa*, is here made.

Within this year the railroad will be extended to a point on the west side of the bay, within half an hour's ferriage of San Francisco. In that event it is more than probable the cars will cross Petaluma creek over a draw-bridge, at or near the town of Donahue. There is a hotel, post-office, &c., at this place, and it is surrounded by rich farming and dairy country. The fine farm of J. R. Rose,—for many years president of the Sonoma and Marin Agricultural Society, and a pioneer breeder of thorough-bred Devonshire cattle, is situated a few miles below Donahue.

LAKEVILLE.

This place is situated on Petaluma creek, a short distance above Donahue. Prior to the railroad era this was a landing-place, where the passengers for the valley of Sonoma were transferred to a regular stage-line for that point. The stage still runs to Lakeville, connecting with the regular morning and evening trains. From Petaluma creek at Lakeville to Sonoma valley, the distance is about seven miles over rolling hills. The town of Lakeville has no importance except such as is given it as a point of transfer for freight and passengers from the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad trains for Sonoma. The road from Lakeville over the mountain, between Petaluma and Sonoma creeks, passes the former Lake *Tolay*,—of which Padre Altimira, in his mission-founding expedition in 1823, said: "We found on said hillock, a little further on, the large lake of *Tolay*,—so-called after the chief of the Indians, who in former times settled there. Its width at some parts is, with little difference, one hundred and fifty varas,*—at others two hundred varas, and at one point one-fourth of a league, which is also its length." This lake, from which Lakeville was named, was drained by its present owner (a utilitarian), and is now a potato patch.

CITY OF PETALUMA.

We have heard it asserted that the name *Petaluma* came from the Indian vernacular, meaning "duck ponds," and also that it was a compound word,

* A vara is thirty-three inches and one-third of an inch.

signifying "little hills." There would have been a local fitness in the last name, and by a change of one or two letters only in *Petaluma*, we have words meaning little hills. The close observer cannot have failed to notice the low mounds in many parts of the valley, of uniform shape and size. These hillocks were much more noticeable before the occupation and cultivation of the soil than they are now, and when the first adventurers found their way into the beautiful valley the mounds must have formed a peculiar and marked feature of the landscape—hence the name, valley of the "little hills." By a change of letters the words lost their identity, but not the sound of the original. These peculiar mounds may be seen in their natural shape and position in great numbers on the Cotate plain, the surface not having been disturbed by cultivation. We do not assert that they are of artificial origin, or that the name of the valley was derived from them, but only that it is a plausible theory for the derivation of the name. The solution of the question we leave to the research of the philologist or the curiosity of the antiquarian.

The city of Petaluma is situated on Petaluma creek, at the head of navigation. It is thirty-seven miles northwest of San Francisco, with which it is connected by sailing vessels, by steamer, and by the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad. Trains pass through the town every day, going south, connecting at Donahue with the steamer for San Francisco. Two trains also pass the city every day, going north to the terminus of the road, at Cloverdale. The time between Petaluma and San Francisco is about two hours, which will be reduced to one hour and a half during this year, by extending the railroad and shortening the trip across the bay.

Petaluma creek is an estuary or arm of the bay, with water sufficient at high tide to float vessels of considerable size at the wharf of the city. A mile and a half above the town the plain rises to the level of high water, and both marsh and creek terminate. The great Central valley of Sonoma, and the Bodega and coast country, lies within easy reach of Petaluma, where its produce finds a home market, or may, at the option of the owner, be shipped by steamer direct, by sailing vessel or by railroad—thus all danger of a monopoly of transportation is barred.

The town is built on undulating ground; all the important streets are well graded, graveled and curbed, having gutters, sewers and open drains. Many of the business houses are imposing structures, with iron fronts in the latest style of modern city architecture. There are in and around the town handsome residences, with spacious and highly-cultivated grounds, but even more attractive are the many homes of well-to-do mechanics and laboring men, half hidden in flowers, indicating that the people are thrifty and prosperous through all gradations of society. The hills upon which the town is partly built afford a view of the opposite plain and range of mountains, including within its far-reaching scope the distant crest of St. Helena, and still further beyond, the conical and shapely summit of Geyser peak—to the southward the creek may be traced winding through the green marsh, sometimes doubling back upon its course, making in a distance of a eight miles a direct progress of but two. This tortuous water-course gives a picturesque beauty to the scene in that direction—especially, as is often the case, if half a dozen sailing craft, with

white wings spread, appear in view—in the undulating air they seem to float above the level of the marsh; following their crooked course, they pass each other, to and fro, or circle around like sea-birds on the wing.

Petaluma is one of the most healthful towns in the State; it lies within the influence of the daily sea-breeze, and bilious or malarious fevers are unknown.

We have glanced hurriedly at the city and its surroundings, and propose now to give a sketch of its early history and present status, more in detail.

We have mentioned the trip of Padre Altimira, in June, 1823, from San Rafael to Sonoma, on a mission-founding expedition. He came upon the west side of the creek, passing over or near the site of the present city of Petaluma, turned the "point of creeks," as he called it, probably at the two ponds on the westerly corner of the farm of F. W. Lougee, and crossed the plain opposite the town to the site of the "old Adobe House." This was the first land expedition of the California padres to the country north of San Rafael. The mission of Sonoma was founded in July, 1823, but no settlement was made in Petaluma valley.

After the secularization of the mission property, General Vallejo received a grant of all the land lying between Sonoma creek on the east, the waters of the bay on the south, and Petaluma creek on the west. That portion of the city known as East Petaluma stands on this tract. General Vallejo occupied the Petaluma ranch from 1836, and built the first house in the valley.

The land on the west side of the creek was claimed under a Mexican grant by Juan Miranda, who settled there in 1838, and built a small house about two miles from the present city of Petaluma. This was the first house or settlement on the west side of the creek. Over these rich plains, through wild oats that might be tied over the back of a horse, roamed herds of fat, sleek Spanish cattle and manadas of Mustang mares—their right disputed only by bands of elk and antelope, which equaled, if they did not surpass them, in numbers.

The first settler, other than those mentioned or their retainers, was Dr. A. F. Heyerman, who, early in 1850, had a log-cabin on what was afterwards called the Rogers place, near Petaluma. Dr. Heyerman, under some pretext or other, set up a claim to the tract of land which he then occupied.

In October, 1850, John Lockwood came up the creek with one or two others in a whale-boat, attracted by reports of the abundance of game. They camped under the oaks on the bank of the creek just above the town, on what is now known as the Bell place. Lockwood and party hunted for the San Francisco market, making regular trips to the city in the Spark, as they called their whale-boat. The next to come were Linus and Wiatt; Lockwood and Wiatt are still residents of Petaluma. Baylis and Flogdell, well known pioneers, came a week after Linus and Wiatt, and all camped near the same place, and hunted or purchased game, which they took to the San Francisco market. They gave Petaluma its first start as a shipping point. A good sized deer or antelope brought twenty dollars, the hind-quarter of a fat elk forty dollars, quail nine dollars a dozen, and ducks from ten to twelve dollars a dozen. Major Singley, the present agent of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad at Petaluma, was the next arrival. Two small trading posts were started near Lockwood camp; one by Baylis & Flogdell, the other by Linus & Wiatt.

The first house in the city limits proper was a warehouse built by James McReynolds, of Analy township, and his partner James Hudspeth, for storing potatoes. It stood on the bank of the creek, just below the bridge, at the foot of Washington street. The warehouse was filled that fall with potatoes, and Mr. Hudspeth cut and baled on the flat above town, one hundred tons of hay, which he shipped to Sacramento. These were the first large shipments of produce from Sonoma county to San Francisco *via* Petaluma. Soon after this, a man named Keller took up a claim which included the town site, and built a house on the creek, above the bridge, where the stone warehouse now stands.

On the 3d day January, 1852, the town was first surveyed by J. A. Brewster for Mr. Keller. The survey commenced at a point on Petaluma creek, between Prospect and Oak streets, running thence west to the westerly line of Liberty street, near Kent, then southerly along Liberty street to A, then on the northerly line of A and a continuation of that line northeasterly to Petaluma creek, including about forty acres. Tom Lockwood and Major Singley carried the chain for this survey. The first merchants of Petaluma were Kent & Smith; they opened a first-rate country store, in 1852. It stood on the east side of Main street, opposite the American Hotel lot, where Ross' photograph gallery now stands. The late F. H. Coe bought in the business, and the firm changed to Kent, Smith & Coe. The first families who came to the town were old man Douglas and the Hathaways. The first hotel was started by Robert Douglas and a man named Adams. It was a board shanty, and stood on the lot now occupied by the American hotel. The first school was kept by A. B. Bowers, and the school-house stood on the site of the present brick one. A. A. Guerny was probably the first Protestant preacher in this valley. He seems to have officiated at most of the weddings of that day, to have preached, lectured or delivered a Fourth of July oration, as the time served—a sort of clerical Bohemian, if we may use the expression without disrespect to the cloth. We know not where Rev. Mr. Guernsy now is, but we wish him well wherever he may be, for he has left his foot-print on the pioneer history of Sonoma county.

The first postmaster in Petaluma county, was W. D. Kent. He was succeeded by Dr. Brown, and Dr. Brown by S. N. Terrell. The mail was carried once a week, on horse-back, from Benicia via Sonoma, Santa Rosa, Miller & Walker's store, near Sebastapol, to Petaluma, and from there to San Rafael, —a round-about way of receiving late news from a city but thirty-five miles distant.

The first justice of the peace was M. G. Lewis. J. Chandler, Judge Jackson Temple and Judge J. B. Southard were the first lawyers in the town. The pioneers Zartman & Fritch started business in January, 1852, with James F. Reed, as blacksmith. They were told they would not make enough to get nails for shoes, but from the start they did a good business.

The first general excitement in the infant city was caused by an enterprise which had for its object the starting of a rival town at a point on the east side of the creek, a mile and a-half below in an air line, but a much greater distance by water, owing to the many crooks and bends in the creek. Major H.

P. Hentzleman and Major Lewis got up this scheme. They purchased a tract on the east side of the creek of General Vallejo, where there was a good landing, and laid off a town which they called Petaluma City. It was known in vulgar vernacular as "New Town." Lewis went to San Francisco and sold out his interest to Colonel J. B. Huie, on condition that a steamer of certain size could get up to the proposed site of the New Town. The steamer Red Jacket, afterwards Kate Hayes, came up in November, 1852, under command of Captain Van Pelt. The same boat made trips at intervals that fall, and it was given out that the New Town was the head of steamboat navigation. The Petaluma boys were not scared at trifles; they went down to New Town one night when the boat lay there, and using all their powers of persuasion, induced the captain to steam up and see if he could not get up to the original town. The venture was a success; this stroke of policy killed New Town; it languished for a year or more but finally gave up the ghost, and, as the cars speed by, it is hard for the old resident to locate the site of the once rival of the city of Petaluma.

The first regular steamer was the Sioc, put on by Colonel J. B. Huie to run to New Town. Ex-Sheriff Latapie was captain, and once part-owner of this boat. The name was changed to the Reindeer. The E. Corning was the first boat that ran regularly to Petaluma. Fare was six dollars to San Francisco, and the trip occupied nearly all day—quite a contrast to the present time, when the trip to Petaluma is made in two hours, and that will soon be reduced to one hour and a-half. The late Capt. Charles M. Baxter took command of the Corning in 1856, and, for many years after, ran the elegant steamer Petaluma, built by Charles Minturn, expressly for this route.

From the beginning of 1853 up to 1855 the town of Petaluma grew rapidly; the great valleys north and south of it settled up with an industrious population, and every acre of land brought under cultivation was a benefit to the town, which had now become the general shipping point for the produce of all Sonoma and Mendocino counties as far north as the country was occupied. With so rich a district to support it, Petaluma soon took rank as one of the most flourishing agricultural towns in the State. Its capital increased as rapidly as its commerce extended. It was, at a very early day, and still continues to be, the largest shipping point for dairy products of all the towns in California.

The first newspaper, the *Petaluma Journal*, was issued on the 18th of August, 1855. The names of several merchants still residing in the town appeared in its advertising columns.

In 1855 and 1856 the growth of the city was very rapid; in the former year the vote was 481, and in the latter it had increased to 801.

In July, 1857, an accurate census was taken by John S. Van Doren, and we are enabled to give the population of the town then, included within an area of a mile square, commencing at the junction of Keller and D streets. White males 802; white females, 502; colored males, 23; colored females, 8; Chinamen, 3. Total, 1,338.

The town of Petaluma was incorporated at the session of the legislature of 1857-8, and the first municipal election was held on the 19th of April, 1858.

The taxable property of the city for the years named was as follows:

1858	\$496,285
1867.....	925,215
1877.....	965,451

The municipal tax this year is eighty cents on each one hundred dollars valuation of property. The money raised by the city tax has been in the main well and judiciously expended. The excellent condition of the streets and the perfect sewerage may be cited in proof of this assertion. More than this, the city and town-ship have expended \$60,000 in improving the roads and highways leading to the surrounding country. No more judicious investment could have been made. The approaches to the town from every direction are in perfect order winter and summer, and along these main arteries trade flows into the city and through all its business channels. The result of this healthy circulation is visible in the growth and improvement of the city. Another attractive feature of the place is the highly improved small farms by which it is surrounded. There are a number of these places on the low foot-hills just west of the plain, which may be seen from the cars. The well-tilled orchards and vineyards, comfortable barns and neat homesteads afford the best possible evidence that not only the city, but the country that surrounds it, is prosperous. Much of the hill-land in the neighborhood of Petaluma, once considered valuable only for the wood which grew upon it, has proven, now that the wood is cut, extremely fertile, and commands the highest price when put upon the market. There are also many very handsomely improved farms on the plain opposite the town, extending back from the creek to the foot-hills on the east, and, in fact, to the top of the range, which is rather an elevated plateau than a ridge, as it appears in the distance.

LAND TITLES.

The settlement of the town of Petaluma led to protracted complication and costly litigation in the matter of land titles. There are some curious features in this legal controversy, and we give herewith a condensed statement of the conflicting claims and the final issue of all the suits.

That portion of Petaluma township bounded by the Petaluma creek, the San Antonio creek, the Rancho Laguna de San Antonio, and the Rancho Roblar de la Miseria, was formerly known as the Rancho Arroyo de San Antonio.

Juan Miranda first settled there about the year 1838, with his family, horses, and cattle, and built a small house, about two miles distant from the present city of Petaluma.

In 1844 he applied for a grant of this land. Jacob P. Leese, then alcalde of the district of Sonoma, certified that he was the only occupant, and an order was made October 8, 1844, by Governor Micheltorena, that the usual title be issued to him. A formal grant of the land to Miranda was drawn up pursuant to this order, and was subsequently found in the archives, but was never executed by the governor in consequence of the political disturbances which ended in Micheltorena's overthrow.

Miranda was the father of many children, and one of his daughters, Francisca, married a Mexican named Antonio Ortega, who had no settled habitation, but lived sometimes with his wife's family, at this rancho, sometimes with the priests at the different missions, and for several years in Oregon. On the ground of his occasional visits to his father-in-law he set up a claim to being the real occupant of the rancho, and succeeded in obtaining from Governor Alvarado a decree for the land, purporting to have been made August 10, 1840.

Thus there were two conflicting claims to the same tract of land. After the death of Miranda, at San Rafael, in 1850, his title was sold by order of the probate court of Marin county, and was purchased by T. B. Valentine of San Francisco. Whether the proceedings at this sale were regular, so as to vest in the purchaser a perfect title, is at least doubtful. The title of Ortega was conveyed to Charles White of San Jose.

After the establishment of the land commission, both of these claims were presented to that tribunal for adjudication. Valentine put in some testimony which was thought to be rather damaging to the success of the Ortega claim, whereupon an agreement was made between the holders of these rival titles, providing that the testimony should be suppressed, the Miranda claim withdrawn, the Ortega claim pressed for confirmation and the proceeds of the sales of the lands covered by it divided between the contracting parties.

The Miranda title was thus summarily disposed of by the act of its holder. To clear away the Ortega title by the slow machinery of the law, took several years. It was confirmed by the land commission, was twice before the United States District Court,—first confirmed, and afterwards rejected; and twice before the United States Supreme Court, where it was finally rejected in 1863.

The land embraced within the limits of the rancho thus became public domain of the United States, and the government surveys were extended over it. That portion within the boundaries of the incorporated city of Petaluma was ceded to that city by Act of Congress of March 1, 1867, and the occupants of all the remainder obtained patents under the pre-emption law.

Valentine besieged the doors of Congress for many years to get an act passed allowing him to present his title to the courts for confirmation. Such a measure would have been a great injustice to the occupants of the land, for although the original title was undoubtedly genuine, and would have been confirmed, he prevented a confirmation by his voluntary withdrawal of it. He was finally satisfied by receiving from the government an issue of very valuable land-scrip for the same number of acres embraced within his grant.

EAST PETALUMA.

That part of the city of Petaluma which lies on the east side of the creek was held under the Vallejo title to the Petaluma grant. The cloud on the west side did not affect it. The tract was originally purchased from General Vallejo by Tom Hopper. On the 27th day of August, 1857, Hopper conveyed to W. D. Bliss, John Kalkman, and Stephen C. Haydon, each, one-fourth interest in his tract of two hundred and seventy acres. Up to this time there was no connection between the east and west side of the creek except over a rick-

ety bridge, which crossed above the city. The new owners of the Hopper tract at once built a draw-bridge across the creek, at the foot of Washington street, and surveyed and sub-divided the land into town and villa-lots. Building commenced on that side, and it is now an important part of the city. The depot of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad is in East Petaluma, and it grows quite as fast as other portions of the city. The land has been raised by the overflow of the creeks which cross Petaluma valley. These streams formerly spread out over the plain beyond the town, but were gradually confined to a narrow channel, through which this rich tribute from the hills was brought across the plain and spread over the lands of East Petaluma, thereby greatly enhancing their value. East Petaluma was included within the limits of the city as already incorporated by an act of the legislature of 1858. The streets are well graded and graveled, and at least two principal highways lead into the city from that direction.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Petaluma has always nurtured its system of public schools. Its corps of teachers have been the best that could be procured, and its school-buildings are a credit as well as an ornament to the place. The high school was first opened in July, 1873, Professor C. E. Hutton in charge. Dr. F. H. Rose succeeded him. Dr. Rose resigned in 1874, and J. W. McClymonds, the present incumbent, was elected. Miss Anna Holbrook is his assistant. The number of pupils in this department is about sixty. The high-school building is situated on D street; it was built as a private academy for Professor Lippitt, who used it for that purpose until it was purchased by the board of education for a high school. The style of architecture is gothic; it is two stories in height, contains four study-rooms, a library-room, an ante-room, and halls. The grounds are ornamented with evergreens, flowers, and grass plots.

M. E. C. Munday is principal of the grammar and primary departments. Mrs. J. E. Woodworth has charge of the second grade; Miss Eliza Robinson has charge of the third grade; Miss Marilla Camm has charge of the fourth grade; Miss Rosa Haskins of the fifth grade; Miss Emma S. Elder of the sixth grade; Miss Sallie E. Hall of the seventh grade; Miss Hattie Fuller of the eighth grade. Miss I. E. Anderson has charge of a class taught in the high-school building, belonging to the fifth grade of the primary department. On the hill, in the northeast part of the city, there is a school of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of the primary department, in charge of Miss Clara Eddy. In East Petaluma there is a school for the same grades, in charge of Miss Helen A. Singley. Miss Annie Camm has charge of the school on D street, for colored children. The total number of teachers in grammar and primary department, thirteen. The grammar school is a large two-story brick building, located on the corner of B and Fifth streets. It was built in 1859, and since then has undergone several changes in its interior arrangements, to accommodate the increasing number of pupils. The building contains eight rooms, of which four are on the upper, and four on the ground floor. It has a seating capacity for about four hundred pupils. The grounds are enclosed by a high board fence, inside of which is a row of silver-leaf maple trees, which add

much to the appearance of the building and its surroundings. The salaries of the teachers vary from sixty to one hundred and fifty dollars per month.

The value of school property is as follows:

High school-building.....	\$15,000
Grammar school-building and lot.....	30,000
Outside school-houses and lots, about.....	8,000
Total value.....	\$53,000

The number of pupils is from six hundred and eighty to seven hundred and twenty, and the cost of maintaining the schools is thirteen thousand dollars per annum.

The school department has been governed by a board of education since 1870, composed of five members. The present board is Messrs. James Singley, G. W. Edelman, W. H. Dalton, N. M. Hedges and F. T. Maynard.

The people of Petaluma respond always to the needs of the public schools, and no complaining is heard in regard to any tax to support them.

CHURCHES.

Of the religious denominations in Petaluma, the Methodist is the oldest, and had the first church-building; the Rev. S. B. Clifford is the minister in charge. The Baptist Church is in charge of Rev. A. Hitchcock. Rev. Geo. A. Allen is rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. The Rev. Father Cleary of St. Vincent's Church. Rev. C. J. Hutchins has the Congregational Church, and the Rev. T. B. Page the Methodist Church South. Some of these congregations have handsome church-buildings, which are well filled every Sunday. For each church there is a Sunday-school, which is patronized by bright-faced boys and girls, and here we will say that there is no sweeter melody than that of the mingled voices of many children singing praises to Him who, in the words of the Psalmist, "covereth the heavens with a cloud, and prepareth rain for the earth; and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herbs for the use of man; who giveth fodder to the cattle, and feedeth the young ravens when they call on him."

SOCIETIES.

The benevolent societies are well represented in Petaluma. There are two Masonic lodges, one of which (Petaluma Lodge, No. 57) was chartered May 3, 1854. There is also a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, organized in 1858, known as Petaluma Chapter, No. 22. Petaluma Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 30, was instituted September 30, 1854. There is also an encampment, of which we have not the date of organization. The Turn Verein have a very prosperous organization. There is also a Hibernian Society, and a Society of Caledonians, and several temperance organizations. The Mutual Relief Association of Petaluma have been very successful and well managed. The oldest is the "Mutual Relief Association;" has a membership of 1,096. It is a life-insurance society simplified: upon the death of any member an assessment of three dollars is levied on each member of the association, and the aggregate sum is paid to the heirs of the deceased member. It has distributed many thousands

of dollars in claims upon it, and is well managed. Its business has extended through Marin, Sonoma and Mendocino counties. L. F. Carpenter is president, and G. R. Coddington is secretary. The Sonoma and Marin Benevolent Association is of like character and organization. Dr. G. L. Shephard is president, and H. M. Faulkner, secretary.

NEWSPAPERS.

The *Petaluma Weekly Journal* was issued on the 18th day of August, 1855, by Thomas L. Thompson. At this time Sonoma county embraced the whole of Mendocino, but the population was sparse, and the mail facilities were imperfect and irregular. The *Journal*, however, was a wide-awake paper, and even at that early day was instrumental in bringing this portion of the State prominently into notice. Mr. Thompson disposed of his interest in the *Journal* in March, 1856, to H. L. Weston. Mr. Weston made it a valuable local journal, ever alive to the interests of Petaluma and Sonoma county. We are indebted to files of the *Journal*, from 1855 to 1860, for much that is valuable, culled from its columns.

In November, 1862, Mr. Weston disposed of a part interest in the *Journal* to T. W. Abraham. That firm continued the publication until February, 1864, when they sold the paper to McNabb & Co., and it was merged into the *Argus*, and took the name of the *Journal and Argus*. Mr. Weston was interested in a Nevada paper from March to August, 1864; in the last named month he returned to Petaluma, and shortly after repurchased an interest in the *Journal and Argus*, which he still retains. The name of the paper was changed to *Petaluma Weekly Argus*.

In November, 1859, J. J. Pennebaker issued the first number of the *Petaluma Argus*. In December, 1860, he disposed of his interest in the paper to A. Drouilliard. In July, 1861, J. H. McNabb & Co. bought out the interest of A. Drouilliard, and in August, 1864, the *Journal and Argus* were consolidated as above stated. The paper is now published by H. L. Weston, N. W. Scudder and James H. McNabb, under the firm-name of Weston, Scudder & Co. It is an elegantly printed quarto, made up in best style of newspaper typographical art. Its managers are thoroughly up in the mechanical, editorial and local departments of the paper. The *Argus* has always been a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party. Though decided, it is fair in its treatment of political subjects, and commands the respect of those who hold opposing views. Mr. D. S. Lane, of the editorial staff, is a careful and accurate writer, a close observer, and a natural statistician. He rarely trips in his facts, figures, logic or language.

To Messrs. Woods, McGuire & Edwards is due the credit of starting the first daily newspaper in Sonoma county. The *Petaluma Daily Crescent* was commenced in the summer of 1870; Mr. C. B. Woods was editor; it was published most of the time by A. McGuire. In the spring of 1872 the *Crescent* passed into the hands of H. M. Woods, who discontinued it in the fall of that

year. The *Crescent* was Democratic in politics, and, in addition to its daily, issued a weekly edition.

In July, 1872, the *Petaluma Argus* commenced the publication of a daily journal, which continued for one year and suspended publication. It was a well made-up daily paper, and its suspension was a surprise to its patrons.

The *Petaluma Courier* was started in the fall of 1876 by W. F. Shattuck. It is Democratic in politics; the proprietor is a practical printer, who grew from boyhood and learned his trade in Sonoma county. He makes an excellent paper, in all its departments. The editor of the paper, E. S. Lippitt, is a leading lawyer of Sonoma county, in large practice. He is a man of fine education, and is a pointed and forcible writer. Mr. Lippitt has a thorough knowledge of the politics of the country. He is an old resident of the county, and knows its local needs. Under its present management the *Courier* cannot fail to become an influential as it is an able journal.

BANKS.

To I. G. Wickersham is due the credit of establishing the first bank in the county of Sonoma. Mr. Wickersham came to Petaluma in 1853. In 1855 he was elected district attorney, and served in that position to the satisfaction of his constituents. He foresaw that the growing city, Petaluma, needed and would support a commercial bank, and in February, 1865, put this idea into practical operation,—opening, on the corner of Main and Washington streets, the banking-house of I. G. Wickersham & Co. The result of this experiment proved that Mr. Wickersham was correct in his judgment,—the business increased every year, and in October, 1874, it was changed to the First National Bank of Petaluma, with a full paid-up capital of two hundred thousand dollars. The business of the new bank was commenced January 1, 1875,—I. G. Wickersham, president; H. H. Atwater, cashier. The trustees are the president and cashier above named, Jesse C. Wickersham, P. B. Hewlitt and H. L. Davis. The bank owns the building in which the business is carried on; it is conveniently located on the leading business street of the city. It is elegantly furnished, and well arranged for the prompt dispatch of business.

THE BANK OF SONOMA COUNTY was organized in July, 1866. William Hill was the first president, and has held that position to this date. E. Sprague was the first cashier; he was succeeded by John S. Van Doren, who has served as cashier continuously since. The bank was organized with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, which was increased in January, 1877, to three hundred thousand dollars. The bank building is on the northwest corner of Main and Washington streets. It was built in 1873 at a cost of almost twenty-two thousand dollars. The directors are E. Newburg, E. Denman, James Fowler, Warren Dutton and William Hill.

PETALUMA SAVINGS BANK.—The capital stock of this bank is one hundred thousand dollars; it was organized in 1872. The first president was J. M. Bowles; he was succeeded by H. T. Fairbanks in 1873. Mr. Fairbanks has held the position continuously up to this time. The first cashier was O. V. Walker; the present is William B. Haskell. The directors are J. M. Bowles,

B. Haskell, H. T. Fairbanks, F. T. Maynard, B. F. Tuttle, S. D. Towne, J. H. Crane, A. P. Whitney and John Moffet. The bank building is on Main street, opposite the American Hotel. It cost, with vaults and furniture complete, about ten thousand dollars.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

There is an excellent public library in Petaluma, containing about four thousand volumes, well selected, with all leading foreign and home magazines, pictorials and newspapers. It was organized under the auspices of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Petaluma. It is supported by the dues of members. The rooms of the association are well managed and furnished, and are conveniently located on the corner of English and Main streets. The first officers were: President, T. F. Baylis; Vice-President, Lee Ellsworth; Recording Secretary, H. H. Atwater, and Treasurer, William Zartman.

THE PETALUMA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Petaluma Fire Department has always been well organized and efficient. Its members have proven their prowess in many hard-fought battles. Thousands of dollars have been saved on more than one occasion by their good judgment, promptness, and courage. The citizens recognize the obligation due to them, and have always encouraged and aided the firemen.

The companies are all handsomely uniformed and equipped for a showy turnout or for service when the bell taps and the time for action has arrived. All honor to the brave fireman who is ever ready to risk his life for the welfare of others, with no hope of reward, other than the consciousness of having done his duty to his neighbor, thus filling one of the two greatest commandments.

PETALUMA ENGINE COMPANY NO. 1

was organized June 10, 1857. William Van Houten was the first foreman, Van Houten resigned and was succeeded by Edward Buckley; in 1858 George Walker was elected; in 1859 and 1860 Charles A. Plummer; in 1861 George Walker; in 1862 William W. Main; in 1863 Frank Bray; in 1864 B. Palmer; in 1865 Charles Tann; in 1866 John E. Gwinn; in 1867 A. A. Prescott; in 1868 Frank Bray; in 1869 H. Pimm; in 1870 H. B. Hasbrouck; in 1871 George Walker; in 1872 H. Pimm; in 1873 John E. Gwinn; in 1874 H. Pimm; in 1875 H. Pimm; in 1876 W. H. Zartman.

HOOK AND LADDER NO. 1

was organized November 27, 1857. James N. McCune was the first foreman, and served in 1857, 1858 and 1859; in 1860 and 1861 T. F. Baylis; in 1862 J. D. Cross; in 1863, 1864 and 1865 J. T. Huie; in 1866 J. S. Cutler; in 1867 J. A. Wiswell; in 1868, 1869 and 1870 William Zartman; in 1871 and 1872 G. W. Edelman; in 1873, 1874 and 1875 H. Schierhold; in 1876 M. M. Keating.

SONOMA ENGINE COMPANY NO. 2

was organized January 1, 1864; Fred. Frazier was the first foreman; in 1865 and 1866 D. W. Sroufe; in 1867 and 1868 J. J. Ellis; in 1869 and 1870 N. E. Manning; in 1871 James Tann; in 1872 G. E. Millett; in 1873 J. E. Elmore; in 1874 S. E. Cooper; in 1875 William M. Brown.

YOUNG AMERICA ENGINE COMPANY

was organized April 3, 1867, William M. Brown was the first foreman; in 1869 Julius Blume; in 1870 G. B. Palmer; in 1871 James Latimer; in 1872 Thomas Edwards; in 1873 Julius Blume; in 1874 B. Harter; in 1875 Frank Spalding; in 1876 A. Cerighen.

MANUFACTURES OF PETALUMA.

Petaluma is favorably situated for the successful prosecution of many branches of manufacturing. There is a constantly increasing local demand for manufactures. The town has already made a creditable start in this line, and its mechanics have an enviable reputation at home and abroad for skill and fair dealing.

CARRIAGE FACTORIES.—The most important industry in Petaluma is the manufacture of wagons and carriages. The first establishment in the place was started in 1852 by its present proprietor, William Zartman. The factory is complete in all its departments. Its machinery is propelled by steam.

The next oldest factory is that of J. Loranger, established in 1864; then follow, in the order named, B. Harter, Weir & Spottswood, Hopes & Cameron, R. Spottswood & Co., D. W. C. Putnam & Co., D. Jay, and Rutherford & Roberts. Petaluma wagons and carriages are sent to various portions of the State, especially to the southern counties; and several vehicles have been sent to Nevada. At each of the above named establishments, plows, harrows, cultivators and other agricultural implements are made. The business may be summarized as follows: Number of men employed, including carriage painters, fifty-four; number of carriages and wagons made annually, two hundred and forty-five,—value of same, fifty three thousand nine hundred dollars; value of agricultural implements manufactured, seven thousand dollars; other work, fifteen thousand dollars; total value of all, seventy-nine thousand five hundred dollars.

HARNESS AND SADDLERY.—Next in importance to the above is the manufacture of harness and saddlery. Gwinn & Brainard commenced business in 1867, and employ eight men; W. Davis employs four men, and C. Burgtorf, four men. Number of sets of harness made annually, five hundred; value, sixteen thousand dollars. Saddles, five hundred; value ten thousand dollars. Carriage trimming to the amount of four thousand dollars is done at the several establishments. Total, thirty thousand dollars. Petaluma harness and saddles have a wide reputation, and shipments of goods have been made to all parts of the State; also to Nevada, Utah, and Peru, South America.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—There are nine places at which boots and shoes are made. The most extensive manufacturer is M. Walsh, who makes nine hundred pairs per year. Total number pairs made annually, two thousand; value, fifteen thousand dollars. A considerable portion of the leather used is Petaluma manufacture.

FOUNDRY.—C. P. Hatch, proprietor. Established in 1859, and first in Sonoma or adjoining counties. Annual value of manufactures, ten thousand dollars.

CLOTHING.—Nine men are employed in making clothing for men and boys. Clothing made annually is valued at fifteen thousand dollars.

FURNITURE AND CABINET WORK manufactured annually equals in value six thousand dollars. In the same department churns, fruit-dryers and butter-tubs, etc., are made to the value of six thousand dollars.

TANNERY.—Jacob Wick is proprietor of the business. Three hundred cords of tan-bark, all of Sonoma growth, are used every year; eight thousand hides are tanned annually; sole, harness and shoe leather of all kinds is made; value of manufacture, fifty-six thousand dollars.

POTTERY.—Petaluma pottery was established in 1866; all kinds of stone-ware manufactured; twenty thousand gallons of stone-ware made in the past year.

FLOURING MILLS.—Central Mills, McCune Bros., proprietors, was established in 1864; it has four runs of stone; capacity, seventy-five barrels in twelve hours; nineteen thousand seven hundred and twenty-five barrels of flour made annually; seven men are employed. The flour is sold in Sonoma and Marin counties, and in San Francisco. Oriental Mills, established in 1863; George P. McNear, proprietor; it has two runs of stone; thirty barrels made daily, and seven thousand eight hundred and ninety annually; five men employed. Both mills do a general milling and jobbing business; value of flour, etc., made, one hundred and sixty-five thousand six hundred and ninety dollars. Two-thirds or more of the annual product is sold in Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino counties, and balance is shipped to San Francisco. Petaluma flour enjoys a good reputation.

PLANING-MILLS.—Petaluma planing-mill was established in 1867, and was the first in the county, also most extensive and complete in Sonoma or adjoining counties; Nay & Broocke, proprietors; work sent to various parts of Sonoma and Marin counties; six men are employed, manufacturing doors, blinds, sash, mouldings, brackets, boxes, tanks and all kinds of mill-work. The Centennial planing-mill was established in September, 1876, Sloper & Fuller, proprietors; three men are employed; articles manufactured same as above, except doors, sash and blinds. The machinery of both mills is propelled by steam-power. The material used comes mostly from Sonoma county; value of manufactures, twenty thousand dollars.

TIN SHOPS.—There are four tin-shops in Petaluma, the first of which was established in 1867. The proprietors are Thomas Schlosser, J. J. Buckins, Harris Bros. and A. W. Barnes. All kinds of tin, sheet-iron and copper ware are manufactured. Dairy-work constitutes a considerable portion of the business. About one thousand sacks of charcoal, which is manufactured in the

county, is used annually. The other material is purchased in San Francisco or imported from the east; value of manufactures, twenty thousand dollars.

COOPERAGE was established in 1868, Isaac Fuller, proprietor. Fifteen thousand kegs and firkins, two hundred barrels and twenty tanks are made; material mostly imported from the east, and some procured in Lake county; value of manufactures, three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars.

BRICK-YARD, established by Jordan Peter in 1867, and now owned by him. The material abundant and of first-class quality; capacity of kilns 1,200,000 bricks; number made annually 3,500,000; value \$4,200.

GLOVE FACTORY—M. Berger, proprietor. It was established in 1870; 500 dozen buck-skin gloves made; 12 persons employed, mostly females; value of manufactures, \$9,000.

BREWERIES.—Petaluma Brewery, established in 1855 by Christlich & Erbe, was the first in Sonoma county; Baltz & Schierhold are the present proprietors. Sonoma Brewery, established in 1872, Mechele & Griess, proprietors; they ship fifty tons annually to San Francisco. The capacity of the two breweries is 5,000 gallons per week, and the quantity made about 81,000 gallons per annum. They use 200 cords of wood, 850 tons of barley, $12\frac{3}{4}$ tons hops, mostly California grown. Their beer is sold in Sonoma and Marin counties; value of same, \$20,000.

GAS WORKS.—Established in 1863, Peter Donohue, proprietor; 400 tons of English and Australian coal used annually; 2,800,000 feet of gas made; value of same, \$15,800.

SADDLE-TREE FACTORY, M. Haar, proprietor, was established by him in 1861, and probably is the most extensive in the State outside of San Francisco; all materials, except a small quantity of Oregon pine, procured in Sonoma county; trees sent to all parts of California, also to Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and Texas; number of trees made 2,500; value of same, \$10,000.

MARBLE WORKS, Thompson & Meek, proprietors, established March, 1875; Italian and Vermont marble used; work sent to various parts of Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino counties, and to other parts of the State; four men employed; value of manufacture, \$10,000.

SOAP WORKS.—Established July, 1875, G. W. Manville, proprietor; 3,000 boxes of 18 pounds each made annually; value of same, \$4,500.

SODA WORKS—B. F. Connolly, proprietor, established in 1860; makes 12,000 dozen bottles of soda and sarsaparilla, and 700 dozen champagne cider, which are distributed in Sonoma and Marin counties; amount of sales \$10,000.

CIGAR FACTORY.—A. Horstman, proprietor, established in 1871; 50,000 cigars made annually; value \$3,000.

BAKERIES.—Three; W. B. Matzenbach, J. T. Rugg, and George Stroebe, proprietors; amount of flour consumed 840 barrels; value of bread, cakes, etc., made \$12,768.

SUMMARY.—Number of persons employed in manufacturing 201; value of manufactures \$535,150.

STREETS, PARKS AND SEWERS.

STREETS.—The principal business streets of Petaluma are Main, Washington, English, Kentucky and B streets. Most of the streets and sidewalks are paved, and the main roads leading out of the town have been graded and macadamized at a heavy outlay of money, raised by special tax, which fell mostly on the people of the city. There are two plazas or public squares, each of which covers a block three hundred by three hundred feet in size. Both are well improved.

PARKS.—Agricultural Park, in the western part of the town, covers about twenty acres, and contains the race track and pavilion of the Sonoma and Marin District Agricultural Society.

CITY GARDENS.—A plot of ground has been laid off in the northern part of this city for a public garden. The plot, containing eight acres, has been properly prepared and laid out with a view to its future beauty and comfort as a pleasure garden. Over twelve hundred shade and ornamental trees of different varieties have been planted.

SEWERAGE.—The system of sewerage is almost perfect. Mains run the entire length of Washington, English, C and F streets, and empty into Petaluma creek. Thus all matter deposited in the creek, twice in every twenty-four hours is carried by the tide into San Pablo bay. The small sewers connect with the mains from nearly every street and alley in the city.

WATER COMPANY.

Dr. J. Walker, of I. X. L. Bitters notoriety, introduced the first water brought in pipes to the city of Petaluma. He sold his interest to John Cavanagh and George L. Bradley, and they subsequently sold to S. D. Towne and Major James Armstrong. The water was taken from a large spring back of the town.

On the 2d of April, 1868, Towne & Armstrong, in connection with the Hon. B. B. Munday, organized the Petaluma Water Company, and on the 16th of the same month it was incorporated. This company, after prolonged and serious difficulty, sold out to the Sonoma Water Company, which was incorporated in 1871. The Sonoma Water Company now owns the works, and supply the town with water. There is an ample supply for domestic purposes. There are hydrants all at convenient fronts, which, with the supply of hose kept on hand, affords a great degree of safety in case of fire. The water is brought from Sonoma mountain.

CEMETERY.

The first cemetery in Petaluma was called Oak Hill Cemetery, and was the property of the city, and contained about eight acres. It is still used.

The Cypress Hill Cemetery was laid off in 1872 by John A. McNear. It contains about forty acres, and is situated a quarter of a mile from the Petaluma and Santa Rosa road, and about a mile from the business part of the city. It is a beautiful location for a cemetery. The drives and walks are macadamized and ornamental trees have been planted over most of the grounds. It is on a hill overlooking all the surrounding country.

BUSINESS CLASSIFIED.

In addition to the industries elsewhere described there are three nurseries where fruit and ornamented trees and rare plants of all kinds can be obtained. There are seven hotels in the town; six livery stables; four stove and hardware stores; eight dry-goods stores; fourteen grocery and provision stores; three drug stores; three furniture stores; two crockery, glassware and stationery stores; two variety stores; three boot and shoe stores; five fruit and vegetable stores; four cigar stores; five butcher shops; two bakeries; four laundries; one stock-yard; seven lawyers, and nine doctors. All the business houses of the town are of a good class, and traffic is well systematized.

SONOMA AND MARIN DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Sonoma and Marin Agricultural and Mechanical Society was organized and held its first fair in Healdsburg, in September, 1859. The second fair was held in Petaluma, in 1860; the third in Santa Rosa, September 24, 1861; the fourth in Sonoma, October 7, 1862. The name was changed to the San Pablo District Agricultural Society, and the fifth fair was held at Sonoma, September 15, 1863. The sixth fair was held at Napa, October 11, 1864. After that the society seems to have entirely collapsed.

On the 6th of June, 1867, the Sonoma and Marin District Agricultural Society was organized, and was from the start a success. The society is out of debt. It has expended \$35,000 in the purchase of land, erection of buildings, fences and repairs thereon. The large sum of \$45,017 has been paid as premium purses on speed, programmes, running expenses of the fair, interest on loans, etc. The stock accommodations and grounds have been greatly improved during the past year, and the society may be said to be upon a solid financial basis. This success is largely due to the earnest efforts of some of the leading citizens of Petaluma and the enterprising farmers residing in the valley, among whom we may mention J. R. Rose, the first president; Lee Ellsworth, Prof. E. S. Lippitt, E. Denman, H. Meacham, and others. Following will be found a tabulated list of the presidents and secretaries of all the societies from the first organization to date:

DATE.	PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.
1859.....	W. P. Ewing.....	A. B. Boggs
1860.....	J. Q. Shirley.....	I. G. Wickersham
1861.....	Dr. John Hendley....	W. H. Crowell
1862.....	Wm. McP. Hill.....	Col. J. Walton
1863.....	Nathan Coombs.....	T. L. Schell
1864.....	A. T. Grigsby.....	Jos. Howland
1865.....	Disorganized.....	Disorganized
1866.....	"	"
1867.....	J. R. Rose.....	P. Cowen
1868.....	" "	" "
1869.....	" "	" "
1870.....	E. Denman.....	J. Grover
1871.....	Lee Ellsworth.....	" "

DATE.	PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.
1872.....	E. Denman.....	E. S. Lippitt
1873.....	J. R. Rose.....	" "
1874.....	" "	" "
1875.....	H. Meacham.....	" "
1876.....	" "	" "

Since the reorganization of the society the fairs have been held every fall in Petaluma. The citizens have come liberally to its relief whenever it was necessary to do so. The society now is upon as good a footing as any in the State, and does much for Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino counties, by affording the opportunity to exhibit to hundreds who come from abroad, not only the fine horses, cattle, sheep, and other live stock of the district, but also the surprising products of our generous soil.

Following are the receipts of the society, and the donations by the citizens, the city, and the State, for each year since its reorganization :

DATE.	RECEIPTS.
1867. Receipts from fair.....	\$7,328
1868. " " "	5,763
1869. " " "	5,984
" Donation by citizens.....	4,217
1870. Receipts from Fair.....	6,341
1871. " " "	5,800
1872. " " "	5,841
" Donation from State.....	2,000
1873. Receipts from fair.....	6,201
" Donation from State.....	2,000
1874. Receipts from fair.....	5,293
" Donation by citizens.....	6,000
" City bonds.....	5,000
1875. Receipts from fair.....	6,200
1876. " " "	6,049
Total receipts.....	\$80,017

MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The Mutual Relief Association, of Petaluma, to which we have elsewhere referred, deserves more extended notice as one of the most successful and useful organizations in this county. To the efforts of G. R. Coddington, the secretary, the success of the society is mainly due. It accomplishes the object of life insurance at the least possible cost, and with the greatest possible benefits. Its members are distributed through Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and British Columbia. The funds are loaned on real estate, and the management is honest, economical and safe. A full list of officers and directors appears in an advertisement in another part of this book.

EXPORTS OF PETALUMA.

Following is a carefully prepared estimate of the exports of Petaluma for a year, which will give the reader an idea of the commercial importance of the city:

Wool shipped, pounds.....	125,000
Butter " "	3,500,000
Cheese " "	750,000
Hay " tons.....	9,000
Grain " "	3,000
Potatoes " sacks.....	200,000
Eggs " dozen	75,000
Poultry " "	6,000
Quail " "	12,000
Flour " barrels.....	7,000
Cattle " head.....	1,500
Hogs " "	23,000
Sheep " "	7,000
Calves " "	12,000
Fruit " boxes	40,000
Paving stones.....	2,000,000

SANTA ROSA.

Friar Juan Amoroso was the person who had the honor of giving the beautiful name of Santa Rosa to the stream from which the valley, the township and the town were afterwards called. It is recorded of Friar Amoroso that he was one of those missionaries who dared everything in behalf of the Cross; earnest, faithful and bold, he preached the story of the Master without fear. He was a true disciple of the Church militant on Earth, and believed in teaching the heathen the practices of Christianity, and, as far as possible, the arts of civilization by force, if they would not adopt them by persuasion. His zeal led him, in 1824, to accept the difficult, not to say dangerous task, of founding the mission of San Rafael. He successfully accomplished that task. Five years after, in 1829, he made an excursion northward in company with one Jose Cantua, hoping, doubtless, to find some stray heathen who by his zeal might be brought into the fold of the faithful. He came to the territory of the Cainemeros tribe of Indians, who resided on the river Chocoalomi, the Indian name of what is now Santa Rosa creek. At the rocky point opposite the "old adobe," a mile and a half from the present town, he captured an Indian girl, baptised her in the stream and gave her the name Santa Rosa, from the fact that, on that very day the Church was celebrating the feast of Santa Rosa de Lima. He was attacked by the natives and fled, arriving safely at his mission of San Rafael. Fortunately the stream and the valley took its name from this beautiful incident. Friar Juan Amoroso and Padre Altimira were the very first pioneers whose eyes were gladdened by the sight of the hills and valleys of Sonoma in their virgin beauty.

The adobe house, on Santa Rosa creek, a mile and a half above town, was the first house built in this valley, or anywhere north of Sonoma, with the exception of the houses at Ross. The land upon which the house stood, and two leagues around it, was granted to Mrs. Carrillo, a sister of the wife of General Vallejo. The house was built in 1838-39; it still stands, and is owned by F. G. Hahman, of Santa Rosa.

A graphic writer gives the annexed picture of the "old adobe" in July, 1850, and its then occupant, Ramon Carrillo; the description will be recognized and relished by all old Californians. We cannot forbear quoting it: "In front of the house was a court-yard of considerable extent, and part of this was sheltered by a porch; here, when the vaccaros have nothing to call them to the field, they pass the day looking like retainers of a rude court; a dozen wild, vicious little horses with wooden saddles on their backs stand ever ready for work; while lounging about, the vaccaros smoke, play the guitar or twist a new riatta of hide or horse hair. When the sun gets lower they go to sleep in the shade, while the little horses who remain in the sunshine do the same apparently, for they shut their eyes and never stir. Presently a vaccaro, judging the time by the sun, gets up and yawns, staggering lazily towards his horse, gathers up his riatta and twists it around the horn of his saddle—the others awakening, rise and do the same, all yawning with eyes half open, looking as lazy a set as ever were seen, as indeed they are when on foot; 'Huppal Anda!' and away they go in a cloud of dust, splashing through the river, waving their lassos around their heads with a wild shout, and disappearing from sight almost as soon as mounted. The 'vaccaro' wants at all times to ride furiously, and the little horses' eyes are opened wide enough before they receive the second dig of their riders' iron spurs." The writer, though he knew it not, saw and described the last of this kind of life at the "old adobe" on Santa Rosa creek; it was, as it were, the very close of the old and the opening of a new area. Don Ramon went south, and in 1851 the building came into the possession of David Mallagh, who had married one of Mrs. Carrillo's daughters. Julio Carrillo owned all on the north side of the creek; the daughters fell heir to that portion lying between Santa Rosa and Bennett Valley creeks. In the fall of 1851, Mallagh and Donald McDonald were keeping a public house at the "old adobe," and had also a small stock of goods and groceries; it was the first attempt at merchandizing in Santa Rosa valley.

In June of 1852, Alonzo Meacham came up from San Francisco. He and his partner, Barney Hoen, had been burned out in the great May fire that year. He bought out Mallagh & McDonald, and established a general store and trading post. Shortly after he sent a petition for a post-office, which was established. Mr. Meacham was made postmaster and gave the office the name of Santa Rosa, to which the town of Santa Rosa succeeded. At that time the mail was carried once a week from Benicia to Napa, to Sonoma, Santa Rosa, Miller & Walker's store and thence to San Rafael. Mr. Meacham's commission was signed by James Buchanan, and Mr. M. is entitled to the gratitude of posterity that he did not call the post-office Mallaghsville, Buchanansburg or some other stupid name of like derivation. Barney Hoen, who had gone to Oregon after the May fire of 1852, returned in the fall, and hearing that his

old partner, Meacham, was in Santa Rosa, came up on the second trip of the steamer Red Jacket, in November. He landed at New Town and came on horseback to Santa Rosa, and purchased of Meacham a half interest in his business. Meacham in the meantime had bought a tract of seventy acres of land from Julio Carrillo, where the town of Santa Rosa now stands, for twelve dollars an acre. On May 1, 1853, F. G. Hahman purchased Meacham's interest in the business at the "old adobe," and, a few weeks after Hoen & Hahman sold an interest to Hartman, and the firm took the name of Hoen & Co.

That summer of 1853 business was lively at the "old adobe;" all the freighting was done by pack-mules, and it was a purchasing point for settlers up the Russian River valley, and as far north as Clear lake. Trains of pack-mules might be seen at all hours, either loading or unloading freight. In August, 1853, the following entry appears on the books of Hoen & Co.: "Real estate—to Alonzo Meacham. Bought of him August 9th, payable two months after date, one piece of land (say seventy acres) opposite Julio Carrillo, \$1,600". The west line of this tract ran through the plaza of Santa Rosa; the land was valued at twelve dollars an acre,—the additional ten dollars an acre paid was for the fence which had been built around it. The "old adobe" was sold by Mallagh to Walkinshaw, of Santa Clara, and he wanted Hoen & Co., who had been paying twenty-five dollars a month for part of the house, to pay three hundred dollars a month for the whole. They refused to pay it, and made the Meacham purchase with the view of laying off a new town. Julio Carrillo agreed to give as much land for that purpose as there was in the tract of Hoen & Co. In the first rough survey of the place the creek was taken for a base, and a line was run northerly from an oak-stump, which stood near the old Masonic hall, to Fourth street,—leaving the plaza trees on land of Hoen & Co. The price of lots was fixed at twenty-five dollars a-piece, without any regard to location. Julio Carrillo's house on Second street,—now owned by J. P. Clark,—was built by John Bailiff in the summer of 1852. This was the only house in the town when it was first surveyed. Achilles Richardson had a small store near the creek, which was outside of First street,—the southern limit of the embryo city.

The first real-estate transaction was a sale to Henry Valley, who purchased six lots, and built a house which still stands on the southwest corner of E and Second streets; for the six lots Valley paid one hundred and fifty dollars.

In the winter of 1853 there was no event of consequence occurred, except the race between Hooker and Bennett for the legislature. The election of Bennett, and the bill he introduced to take a vote upon the question of the removal of the county-seat, was a matter of much importance to Santa Rosa. The question was not agitated publicly,—the Sonoma valley people were afraid to raise the issue, and the Santa Rosa people kept their council to themselves.

The Bennett bill provided that the question of removal should be submitted to a vote of the people at the following election in September. The bill became a law in March, 1854, and from that time until the election, the people of Santa Rosa were not idle.

In the spring of 1854 the old Masonic hall was built,—the third house in the town. John Ingram had the contract for its construction; singularly

enough the specifications provided that it should be weather-boarded with Eastern pine, which was carried out to the letter at great cost, while redwood boards (far more durable) could have been gotten for one-third less. But in those days the redwood, like the prophet in his own country, had no honor. Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 57, first worked under a dispensation, and was chartered May 2, 1854. Achilles Richardson was the worshipful master, John Ingram was the first senior warden, and William Noel was the first secretary; among the charter members were Lindsay Carson, James A. Campbell, David Thompson and Westly Mathews. J. H. Griggs came over from Solano soon after, and was the second worshipful master of the lodge. We have mentioned these facts because it was a little remarkable that Masonry should have taken such an early start in Santa Rosa,—the third and best house in the town being a Masonic hall. As soon as the hall was finished, the lower part was rented to E. P. Colgan for a hotel. He had been keeping a public-house at the "old adobe," and afterwards built a hotel for himself on the site of the present Santa Rosa house. This was the fourth house, and was built by John Ingram.

In the spring of 1854 Hoen sold his interest in the store at the adobe to his partners, Hahman & Hartman, and put up the building where John Richards' barber-shop stands, for a store. He opened it in June, and was the first merchant in Santa Rosa, except Richardson, who was just outside the survey. Hahman & Hartman, who still kept store at the "old adobe," saw that Santa Rosa was destined to become the principal place in this section, and made preparations to move. Hoen had built on the corner they wished to occupy, and F. G. Hahman purchased of Julio Carrillo the lot on the northwest corner of Second and C streets, opposite Clark's livery stable. He immediately commenced the erection of a building; completed and opened it on the 4th of July, 1854, with a grand ball, of which more will be said further on.

Soon after the passage of the bill authorizing a vote on the question of removing the county seat, the people of Santa Rosa valley commenced a good-natured seige to secure a majority vote for the change. As the summer advanced the contest waxed warmer; the Santa Rosans projected a grand barbecue at the proposed county seat on the Fourth of July. It was a master-stroke of policy,—the people came and saw, and were conquered by the beauty of the place and the hospitality of the people, who, on that occasion, killed the fatted calf, and invited to the feast the rich and poor, the lame, the halt and the blind,—in fact everybody who had, or who could influence or control, a vote. The smoke of the sacrifice of whole sheep and huge quarters of beef ascended to heaven freighted with the prayers of the Santa Rosans to dispose the hearts and ballots of the people in their favor, and, like the pious Greeks of old on similar occasions, when the smoke had ceased to ascend, and the offering was cooked to a turn, they partook of the sacrificial meat,—the incense of which had tickled their nostrils, whetting at the same time their appetites and their devotions. At least five hundred persons, from all parts of the country, were present. A. Guerny, a Baptist preacher, delivered the oration; James Prewitt read the Declaration of Independence; John Robinson, Sylvester Ballou and Joe Neville also made speeches.

The barbecue was so grand a success that it made a lasting impression on

the people, and from that day to this barbecues have been the most popular of all entertainments in Sonoma county. This barbecue was held beneath a splendid grove of oaks which stood on or near the Hewitt place, then owned by Commodore Elliott. The day closed with a grand ball, given in the store-room of Hahman & Hartman, which had just been finished, on the corner of Second and C streets. The Powers boys, with their violin, furnished the music, and about forty couple chased the hours with flying feet, until surprised by the early summer sun, which crept up behind Mayacmas, flooding the valley with rosy light.

Early in 1853 J. W. Ball came into the valley; he first located on the Farmer place, on the south side of Santa Rosa creek. There a number of his family died of small-pox; he then moved over to the Boleau place, where Dr. Simms now lives, and kept there a sort of tavern and store. He bought ten acres of land at the junction of the Russian river, Bodega and Sonoma roads, where the cemetery lane now intersects the Sonoma road, and laid off a town there, which was called Franklin-town. S. G. Clark and Dr. Boyce, who had bought out Ball, built and opened a store in Franklin. Ball had a tavern there; H. Beaver a blacksmith shop, and W. B. Birch a saddle-tree factory. In September, 1853, S. T. Coulter and W. H. McClure bought out Boyce & Clark.

The same fall the Baptist church, free to all denominations, was built. For a short time Franklin divided the attention of new comers with Santa Rosa and the "old adobe." The selection of Santa Rosa as the county seat, in the fall of 1854, put an end to rivalry. Within the year following all the houses in Franklin were moved to the new county seat, including the church, which still stands on Third street, between E and D streets. In 1875 it was sold and converted into two tenement houses.

Barney Hoen, in a canvass of the county, promised that he and a few others would donate lots and build a court house, if the people would vote for the change. When it was known that Santa Rosa had won, an impromptu celebration was gotten up, anvils were fired, Hoen killed one beef, and Julio Carrillo another, for a free feast. The rejoicing was kept up for two days.

On the 18th of September the board of supervisors met in Sonoma, canvassed the returns, and passed an order declaring that Santa Rosa was the county seat of Sonoma county,—a majority of votes having been cast in favor of the change. Supervisor S. L. Fowler moved that the archives be removed to the new county seat on Friday, September 22, 1854, which passed unanimously. On the day appointed, Jim Williamson, with a four-horse team and wagon, accompanied by Horace Martin and some others, went down to Sonoma, captured and brought up the archives, amid dire threats of injunction and violence from the Sonoma people, who saw, with no little chagrin, the county seat slip through their fingers. The Santa Rosans had the law, wanted only possession, and would not have hesitated to use all the force necessary to get that; as it was, they captured the archives by strategy, and the dry and dusty documents of former drowsy old alcaldes were whirled over the road as fast as Jim Williamson's four-in-hand could take them to the new capital, where they safely arrived, and were deposited *pro tem.* in Julio Carrillo's house, which was

rented for that purpose. The supervisors followed the records at a slower pace, and on the 20th of September, 1854, at five o'clock P. M., the board convened in Carrillo's house, and at that meeting Barney Hoen gave bonds to have a court house put up in six weeks, on the lots which had been donated by Hoen, Hahman & Hartman. With the aid of a man named Pinnard, a Frenchman, he had the work done within the time, and the county government occupied it. This building stood where Ringo's store now is, and was afterwards removed. The county, in 1856, built the lower story of the present court house, and sold the old one and the lots upon which it stood. The first story of the court house was built for nine thousand dollars, by J. M. Phillips, a contractor from San Francisco. In 1859 the upper story was put on, at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars. In 1871-2 the recorder's office was built at a cost of twenty thousand dollars.

Hoen sold out his store to G. N. Miller in the spring of 1855. F. G. Hahman was the first postmaster; Hoen was the agent of Adams & Co.'s express, and Chil. Richardson started the first stage line between Santa Rosa and Petaluma. John Ingram built one of the first residences on Second street, now occupied by Mr. Lancaster; and Charley White built the first bridge across Santa Rosa creek. The lower story of the court house was the first brick edifice, and John Ingram built the second for Buck Williamson, next to the office of the *Sonoma Democrat*, and now owned by Gus Kohle.

The first physician in the town was Dr. J. F. Boyce, and the first lawyers were Judge Jackson Temple and the late Colonel M. Ross.

The first religious service was held by a Methodist minister in the open air, under a grove of trees which were near the present site of the court house. The Christian Church congregation was organized in 1854, with about twenty members, by the much-beloved Elder Thomas Thompson and J. P. McCorkle.

On the site of the brick boarding-house, near the Pacific Methodist College, James Cockrill had a residence as early as 1852; it was a long way out of town when the first survey was made. Mr. Cockrill died of small-pox, which was epidemic in 1853.

The merchants, in the order of their coming, were: C. Richardson, B. Hoen, Hahman & Hartman, Marks & Rosenburg, who opened on C street, on the lot opposite the Grand hotel, and formerly occupied by Carruthers. Miller, the county treasurer, bought out Hoen; he died, and Dr. Hendley bought the business.

The first saddler was a man named Barnard, and T. B. Hood succeeded him in 1856. E. T. Farmer bought an interest in Hendley's business, and the firm carried on business under the name of Hendley & Farmer, on the east side of the plaza. B. Goldfish bought out Hahman & Hartman in 1856, and was joined by Henry Wise, and the firm of Wise & Goldfish are the oldest merchants in the town. E. T. Farmer succeeded Farmer & Hendley.

The first school in Santa Rosa was kept in the old Masonic hall, and was taught by W. M. Williamson, now of Samoa, Navigator Islands.

The first term of the court of sessions in Santa Rosa was held in Julio Carrillo's house, by Judge Frank Shattuck; Judge P. R. Thompson and James Prewitt were associate justices.

Santa Rosa grew quite rapidly from 1854 up to 1859,—having that year, by actual count, two churches, and two resident preachers, nine lawyers, five doctors, one academy for two hundred and fifty pupils, two notaries, one newspaper, nine dry goods and grocery stores, one drug store, two hotels, two restaurants, two saloons, one saddler shop, one butcher shop, one shoemaker, one jeweler, one paint shop, one carriage shop, and three carpenter shops, one pump factory, two livery stables, one bakery, seventy-four residences, and a population of four hundred.

In 1859 the firm of Wise & Goldfish commenced business, and have continued together without a change of name, or any change in their firm, for nineteen years, a very unusual circumstance in business connections in this State. They moved out of the building, on the east side of the plaza, to Main street early in 1860, and on the 17th of March, Hendley & Farmer moved into the vacated store, and opened business. The business then commenced has continued, and is now represented by Riley, Hardin & Farmer,—C. C. Farmer being the junior member of the firm. Mr. George Hood has been continuously in the jewelry business for a very long time, and still has his store on Main street.

From 1859 to 1870 the town grew slowly. In the latter year it was credited with but nine hundred inhabitants, it had doubled its population in a decade. In 1872 the railroad was completed, the scene changed as if by magic, and in the short space of five years the town has increased from a population of one thousand to six thousand. There are now twelve hundred houses—many of them substantial brick structures—the city limits include an area of a mile and a half square, and there is a rapid growth in wealth as well as in population.

BRICK BUILDINGS.

The most notable brick buildings, named in the order in which they were built, are: The Santa Rosa Bank building, on Exchange street, built in 1871-2; the recorder's office, on the corner of Exchange and Fourth streets, completed the same year; the I. O. O. F. hall, on the corner of Exchange and Third streets, built the same year; the Ridgeway block came next, and that was followed by the Grand Hotel building, on the corner of Third and Main streets. This fine structure was built by Neece & West, and is kept as a first-class hotel by Neece & Pooler. The block owned by Judge Overton, Morrow Brothers, and others, on Fourth street, was built about the same time. In 1874 Mrs. Spencer put up a block on Fourth street, Jerry Ridgeway a block on Third street, the Santa Rosa Savings bank their elegant building on Exchange street. The same year T. L. Thompson erected Sonoma Democratic building, on Exchange street, and General Parks the block on the corner of Fourth and B street. The Occidental hotel, on Fourth street, the largest and most costly building in the city, was completed in 1876. It is kept in first-class style by G. A. Tupper, and is one of the finest houses north of San Francisco.

For want of space we must bring this branch of our subject to a close, without mentioning other buildings equally worthy of special notice.

SANTA ROSA BANK.

To E. T. Farmer is due the credit of establishing the first bank in the city of Santa Rosa. When others had not confidence enough to invest, he guaranteed them an interest on their capital, and launched the enterprise, certain of the future of Santa Rosa as a business centre, though at that time the population numbered not more than one thousand. The bank was incorporated on the 11th of August, 1870, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. E. T. Farmer was elected the first president, and C. G. Ames the first cashier—both have held their respective offices ever since. The first office of the bank was in the store of E. T. Farmer, on Third street. The building now occupied, on Exchange street, was put up in 1872, and marked a new era in the progress of Santa Rosa. In 1873 the capital stock was increased to three hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Farmer, the president of the bank, has done a great deal towards developing the resources of Santa Rosa and the surrounding country. Mr. Ames, the cashier, is an old resident of the county, who has long maintained a reputation for business capacity and integrity. The directors are E. T. Farmer, C. G. Ames, Thomas Hopper, David Burris, J. S. Taylor, Captain W. E. Cocke and E. H. Barnes.

SAVINGS BANK OF SANTA ROSA

was organized in 1873, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. A. P. Overton was elected first president. F. G. Hahman was appointed by the board of directors the first cashier—both hold their respective offices, and have held them continuously since the organization of the bank. The bank was first opened in Hood's building, on Main street. In 1874 the new and handsome quarters now occupied, on Exchange street, was built at the cost of fourteen thousand dollars. A special meeting is soon to be held for the purpose of increasing the capital stock of the bank. The savings bank has been a success from its organization. The president, A. P. Overton, is a successful business man of sound judgment. The cashier, F. G. Hahman, has been identified with the town from the day the first step was taken in its location down to the present time, and has always maintained the reputation of an energetic and trustworthy business man. The directors are A. P. Overton, Henry Wise, E. Latapie, A. Runyon, M. Doyle, Daniel Brown, W. S. M. Wright.

PACIFIC METHODIST COLLEGE.

In the year 1859 the Pacific Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South inaugurated measures looking to the early organization of a college. Trustees were appointed, and Rev. J. C. Stewart was elected agent. The citizens of Vacaville and vicinity proposed to furnish buildings and grounds, and turn the same over to the trustees free of debt. The offer was accepted, and a meeting of the board of trustees was held in February, 1861, when the following persons were elected to positions in the college, namely: Rev. J. C. Stewart, president *pro tem.*, and C. S. Smyth, professor of mathematics. A short time after this O. H. O'Neill was employed as temporary professor of languages.

It was decided to open a preparatory school on the 11th of March, 1861. The first regular session of the college was opened in July, 1861, with Professor C. S. Smyth, department of mathematics; Professor S. B. Morse, department of languages, and Miss E. A. Caldwell in charge of primary department. The first day showed an attendance of only thirteen students; yet within four months the number had increased to forty-six. Three weeks before the close of the session, Rev. W. T. Lucky, who had previously been elected president, arrived and took charge of the institution.

The first annual catalogue, published in May, 1862, contained the names of over eighty students enrolled for the year. There was a period of uninterrupted prosperity from 1862 to April, 1865, when the main college building was destroyed by fire—the work of an incendiary. Provision was promptly made for the accommodation of classes, and the exercises of the institution went on as usual, without the loss of a single recitation.

After a year and a half of zealous effort on the part of the agent, Rev. W. M. Winters, another building was erected, at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars. In December, 1866, Dr. Lucky tendered his resignation, to take effect in May, 1867. At the annual meeting of the board of trustees, in May, Dr. J. R. Thomas, of Emory College, Georgia, was elected president. The institution continued its sessions in Vacaville until May, 1870, when, by vote of the trustees, it was removed to Santa Rosa.

The citizens of Santa Rosa and vicinity generously donated ten acres of land, and erected thereon a spacious college building, at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars. The present value of the building and grounds is estimated at thirty thousand dollars. The college grounds are situated in the northeastern part of the city, and are beautifully ornamented with evergreens and native oaks. The building is commodious, affording accommodations for three hundred students. There are two literary societies connected with the college, which have their halls neatly furnished. The libraries of the two societies contain about eight hundred volumes.

The first regular session in Santa Rosa was opened in August, 1871, with A. L. Fitzgerald, A. M., president and professor of mental and moral science; C. S. Smyth, professor of mathematics; Charles King, professor of languages, and Miss Florence Miller in charge of the primary department.

In July, 1876, President A. L. Fitzgerald tendered his resignation, to take effect in October, when Rev. W. A. Finley was elected to take charge of the institution.

The present faculty consists of Rev. W. A. Finley, D. D., president and professor of mental and moral science; C. S. Smyth, A. M., professor of mathematics; O. H. Roberts, A. M., professor of Latin language and literature; E. J. Griffith, A. M., professor of natural science; W. A. Finley, A. M., professor of Greek language and literature; Ferdinand Kenyon, A. B., tutor in mathematics; W. A. Wright, A. M., commercial and business department; Miss Lilla Werlien, department of music.

The present attendance is good, and the prospects of the college are in every respect encouraging. While the institution has enjoyed marked prosperity under previous administrations, we are confident that in the future its reputa-

tion for good discipline and thorough work will be fully equal to that which it has already established. The graduates of the institution, up to May, 1876, number fifty-eight. The annual commencement takes place in the month of May, each year.

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

This institution is under the control and patronage of the Christian Church in the State of California. It is one of the two colleges situated in the city of Santa Rosa, which institutions are the pride and glory of the place.

The grounds were purchased, and the buildings erected during the summer of 1872, at a cost of about twenty-five thousand dollars. The main building is well-constructed. In size it is ample for several hundred students, being one hundred and three feet long by sixty-nine wide. The college chapel is a hall, beautiful in design, and well arranged for comfort. There are a sufficient number of recitation rooms, society and music halls, well adapted to the use for which designed.

The present faculty has been secured at great expense, most of them being men of large experience in their profession. The college building was dedicated with appropriate services on Monday, September 23, 1872. On the same day the college commenced its first session under the presidency of Alexander Johnson, assisted by a competent corps of teachers. The beginning was truly flattering. After five years' experience we feel that we may confidently say that Christian College is destined, at no very distant day, to take rank among the first institutions on this coast.

The college is situated on B street, in the centre of the city. The buildings and grounds are worth at least thirty-five thousand dollars. Christian College has many warm friends throughout the State, and we hope to see the day when it will be placed on the most prosperous possible basis, by endowment. The annual commencement is largely attended from all parts of the State, and creates a very lively interest in the subject of education. Much of the prosperity of Santa Rosa is due to the two colleges located within its boundaries.

We give a list of the faculty: J. M. Martin, A. M., president; J. M. Monroe, A. M., professor of languages; J. Bradshaw, A. B., professor of mathematics; J. Derham, A. M., professor of sciences; A. A. Hoyt, professor in charge of commercial department; Mrs. Murphy, primary department; Mlle. Lovet, teacher of French.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF SANTA ROSA.

The public schools of Santa Rosa constitute one of its most important interests, and are among its chief attractions. The same salubrity of climate, beauty of scenery, and morality of sentiment that have been instrumental in building up the colleges of this city, have also produced a remarkable growth in its public educational facilities.

Three years ago the schools numbered six teachers and three hundred pupils; to-day they contain fourteen teachers and six hundred and fifty pupils in regular attendance. Within this time the facilities for school work have been

greatly improved by the erection of a large and handsome building, at a cost of eight thousand dollars, capable of seating five hundred pupils, and furnished with the best modern furniture. The building is conveniently and comfortably arranged; the ventilation is excellent, and the means of rapid egress ample in case of an emergency. The school apparatus is not as complete as could be desired; but as much has been done in this direction as possible, and more will be added as soon as the funds of the school department will admit.

The school-grounds are well situated; the location of the east school is on Fourth street, in the eastern portion of the city, and that of the west school on Davis street, near the railroad; the capacity of the grounds are hardly sufficient for the recreation of so many children.

By the last legislature, Santa Rosa was constituted a separate school-district, under the management of a board of education, consisting of five members.

The present board is: F. G. Hahman, president; W. B. Atterbury, clerk; C. G. Ames, R. A. Thompson, and R. P. Smith.

The discipline of the schools gives general satisfaction; and in this respect the schools have gained a reputation in other sections of the State. The following comprise the present corps of teachers, and their respective positions: Melville Dozier, principal; Mrs. Jeannie Pyatt, first assistant; Ellis T. Crane, first grammar grade; William Acton and Mrs. C. H. Ballard, second grammar grade; John H. Burnett, third grammar grade; Miss Basha England, Miss Sophia Kraus, fourth grade; Mrs. L. E. Hardy and Miss A. Swasey, first primary grade; Miss Flora McDonald, second primary grade; Mrs. E. Godwin, third and fourth primary grades. J. M. Kilpatrick, principal of west school; Mrs. E. F. Middleton, assistant in west school. Nearly all of these teachers are persons of experience in the work, and hold the highest grade certificates.

Residents of the city are admitted into the various departments of the schools between the ages of six and twenty-one, while the course of study anticipates the preparation of a pupil for the ordinary business of life, or, if he desires to go farther, for admission into the University of the State.

The school is kept open for ten months of the year, two terms of five months each, commencing, respectively, on the second Monday in January and July, with a brief vacation at the middle of each term. The per centage of attendance on the part of the pupils is excellent, averaging nearly ninety-five per cent. The whole number of pupils in attendance at the public schools during the present school year is eight hundred and thirty-five.

The last census, taken in June of last year, returned one thousand and sixty-three children of school age in the city. The citizens of Santa Rosa have reason to feel gratified at the condition of the public educational interests of the city, and would do well to foster to the utmost this very important feature of their local advancement.

PROFESSOR JONES' ACADEMY.

Professor G. W. Jones, former superintendent of public schools, has a select school for boys, which maintains a high reputation as a preparatory school for the universities, and the patronage is limited only by its accommodation.

Miss Chase has recently established a private school for girls. She is an accomplished teacher, and deserves a liberal support.

CHURCHES.

There are eight churches in Santa Rosa. The oldest organized congregation was the Baptist, who now have a fine church on B street, of which the Rev. S. A. Taft is pastor. The next oldest church is the Christian, which is situated on Fifth street. Elders J. Martin and J. Monroe have charge of this church. The Methodist Episcopal Church South is located on Fifth street, Rev. J. O. Branch, pastor. The Presbyterian church is also on Fifth street, Rev. F. M. Dimmick, pastor. The Protestant Episcopal Church is situated on Mendocino street, Rev. Thomas Smith, pastor. The Methodist Episcopal Church on Third street, Rev. Charles E. Rich, pastor. The Catholic Church is on Fifth street, Rev. P. J. Kaiser, priest in charge. There is also a church of the Seventh Day Adventists on Second street; we believe they have no regular minister in charge. All these churches have flourishing Sunday-schools, except the Adventists, who hold service on Saturday.

SOCIETIES.

Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 57, F. and A. M., was chartered May 2d, 1855. The present officers are R. P. Smith, W. M.; E. Neblett, S. W.; A. L. Fisher, J. W.; D. H. Russell, S. D.; C. L. Phelps, J. D.; A. B. Ware, secretary; E. T. Farmer, treasurer; Julio Carrillo, tyler.

Santa Rosa Chapter, No. 47; organized February, 1873; E. T. Farmer, high priest; E. Neblett, king; J. A. Hailman, scribe; A. L. Fisher, C. H.; R. P. Smith, P. S.; F. M. Caldwell, R. A. C.; R. K. Hayes, third veil; D. C. Nicholls, second veil; D. H. Russell, first veil; J. M. White, treasurer; William Strom, secretary; Julio Carrillo, tyler.

Santa Rosa Lodge, No. 53, I. O. O. F., was instituted February 28th, 1856. Following is a list of the present officers: A. Shepherd, N. G.; A. Meade, V. G.; J. K. Smith, R. S.; J. A. Eveleth, P. S.; C. D. Frazee, T.; S. T. Coulter, W.; S. W. Metcalf, C.; William Strom, R. S. N. G.; T. L. Rea, L. S. N. G.; L. Frehe, R. S. V. G.; G. N. Savage, L. S. V. G.; Henry Kronke, I. G.; L. Wilde, O. G.; D. S. Sacry, J. P. G.; J. A. Eveleth, district deputy.

Santa Rosa Encampment, I. O. O. F., No. 53; organized December 14, 1875. Present officers—S. T. Coulter, C. P.; J. K. Smith, H. P.; D. S. Sacry, S. W.; P. H. Kronke, J. W.; H. L. Howe, treasurer; C. D. Frazee, scribe; William Strom, guide.

Independent Order of Good Templars.—D. S. Sacry, W. C. T.; Mrs. E. Evans, W. R. H. S.; Miss C. A. Cole, W. L. H. S.; Mrs. C. M. Shepherd, W. V. T.; A. Shepherd, W. S.; E. Nackley, W. F. S.; Miss Bessie Cole, W. T.; Miss Cornelia McIlmoil, W. M.; Joseph Ferguson, W. D. M.; Miss Jennie Hadcock, W. T. G.; Joseph Childers, W. O. G.; W. H. Lee, P. W. C. T.; J. H. Richardson, L. D.

LIBRARY.

The Santa Rosa Library Association was organized in April, 1875, without a dollar of capital. Judge Jackson Temple, was the first president; R. A. Thompson, the first vice president, and D. D. Davisson was the first secretary. The association rented four rooms in the Masonic Hall, and opened them in

December, 1875. The rooms were neatly furnished, which was largely due to the interest taken in the matter by the secretary, D. D. Davisson. At the second annual meeting, held in April, 1876, R. A. Thompson was elected president; A. C. McMeans, vice president; E. T. Crane, secretary; M. Dozier, J. T. Pressley, Barclay Henly, G. W. Jones, E. T. Farmer and D. D. Davisson, directors. J. A. Cooper is librarian. The association has about eight hundred books, and all of the furniture is paid for. Most of the books are standard works. Santa Rosa is the seat of widely celebrated institutions of learning; has a reading and cultivated population, and should have the best public library in the State outside of the larger cities.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Santa Rosa Engine Company, No. 1, was organized in 1860. W. H. Crowell was the first president; T. L. Thompson was the first foreman, and John Ledwidge was the first assistant. The present officers are: C. C. Farmer, president; T. L. Thompson, foreman; C. Kessing, first assistant; M. Wise, second assistant; Joe Richardson, treasurer, and J. D. Doychert, secretary.

The Santa Rosa Hook and Ladder Company was organized in 1874. A. Korbel was the first foreman; J. Royal was the first assistant. The present officers of the company are: J. Royal, foreman; E. Rust, first assistant; E. Seegelken, treasurer; — Scaimore, secretary.

MANUFACTURES.

Within the past year Santa Rosa has largely increased her manufacturing facilities, displaying in this direction a liberality and spirit of enterprise creditable to her people.

The most important of these enterprises is the Alden Fruit Preserving Company. It was incorporated September 29th, 1876, with a capital of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, divided into two thousand five hundred shares, par value five dollars each. S. T. Coulter is president of the company, and W. Coker is secretary. The main building is thirty by twenty-eight feet, three stories high, with an eight-foot basement. There is a wing to the main building thirty-two by twenty feet, and a one-story building sixty by eighteen feet for canning fruit. The works have a capacity for drying eight tons of green fruit, and canning one hundred cases of two dozen each a day. The works employ during the season six men and fifty boys and girls.

The Santa Rosa Boot and Shoe factory is another very important enterprise. The proprietor is C. Lovejoy. The factory is situated on McDonald avenue—the building is neatly constructed, and is two stories high with a wing. The ground and upper floors are eighty by thirty feet; all the machinery is driven by steam, the factory is complete in all its appointments, and when run to its full capacity will be able to supply the local demand of the north-coast counties for boots and shoes.

The Santa Rosa Wine Company was organized in 1876. Following is a list of the officers: Jackson R. Meyers, president, W. L. Knapp, vice-president, J. F. Boyce, treasurer, Rufus Murphy, secretary, John Taylor, superintendant. The lot on which the factory stands fronts two hundred and forty

feet on the railroad, with a depth of one hundred and eighty-five feet. The building has a frontage of ninety-five feet, with a depth of one hundred feet, with wing fifty by twenty feet. It is one of the largest and most conveniently arranged wine factories in the State, with a capacity for working at least two thousand five hundred tons of grapes a year, of which one thousand tons are raised in the neighborhood of Santa Rosa, and any desired number of tons can be had by rail from the county north of the factory. They have now in casks about one hundred and fifty thousand gallons of wine.

The Santa Rosa Brewery is situated on Second and Wilson streets. It presents a very neat and business-like exterior. It was started four years ago by Bosen & Metzger; now owned by Joost & Metzger. Many improvements have since been made in the original works. The capacity of the brewery is three hundred and fifty barrels, or ten thousand gallons a month. Two wagons and five horses are kept at work. The machinery is run by horse power.

The Carriage Manufacturing Company of Baker, Ross & Mitchell, is situated on Main street between First and Second. It was established in 1874. The building is fifty by one hundred and fifteen feet, the main central front having two stories; six men are employed; Charles Bogart does the carriage painting.

J. K. Smith Carriage and Car factory was first established in 1873 by D. C. Nicoll; is situated on Fourth street near the railroad depot. S. S. Nowlin purchased a half interest which he sold to J. K. Smith, and the firm took the name of Nicoll & Smith; J. K. Smith purchased Nicholl's interest, and became sole proprietor. John Miller is foreman of the blacksmithing department. The Santa Rosa street cars were built at this establishment.

Smith & Gulkzes' carriage manufactory is situated on Main street. This firm do general carriage, manufacturing and blacksmithing business.

Santa Rosa planing mill is situated on Wilson street, and was built in 1870 by H. T. Hewitt. It was afterwards sold to Mr. Arnold, and by him to F. Korbel & Brothers, who still own it. The engine is twenty horse power, and the daily capacity of the mill is from seven to twelve thousand feet of ordinary planing work. From eight to ten hands are usually employed about the mill.

The marble works of Santa Rosa are situated on Fourth street near the depot. Fisher & Russell are the proprietors. They do excellent work, employing eight men, and have extended their business out of Sonoma, into Lake, Mendocino and Napa counties.

A soap factory was started in 1872 by J. F. Filcher, who was succeeded by the present proprietor, J. H. Holman. They manufacture one hundred and fifty boxes of soap per week, and keep two teams employed selling soap in this and adjoining counties.

The Santa Rosa Mills, situated on Santa Rosa avenue, south of the iron bridge, were established about fifteen years ago by William Hood. They are now owned by Baker & Shaw. The building is a large wooden one, the centre being two stories and a half, and having a wing on each side about seventy-five feet in length, with a basement story. There are three runs of stone—two for wheat, and one for making corn-meal, graham flour, and ground feed. The

mill is run by an engine of fifty horse power, and the capacity of the mills about fifty barrels in twelve hours. Five men are generally employed.

Empire Mills are located on the railroad between Sixth and Seventh streets. The mill proper is a three story brick building, and adjoining is the warehouse a one story brick building, having a storage capacity of thirty thousand tons of wheat. This building was erected some years ago, at a cost of thirty-seven thousand dollars. It was built by Dr. Dobbins, and sold by him to Mr. John McIlmoil, and a half interest afterwards bought by Mr. Stoddard. S. S. Nowlin bought the interest of Mr. McIlmoil. These mills have three runs of stone for wheat, and one for corn, barley, etc., and have all the latest and best improved machinery for making "A. No. 1" flour. Their capacity is one hundred barrels in twelve hours, and six men are generally employed about them.

The Golden Eagle Foundry and Machine Shops, owned by M. E. Shulte, situated on Fifth street, west of the railroad, were established in December 1874. The buildings are plain but substantial, and suitable to the business. Here are cast all sorts of agricultural implements, irons for bridge work, and iron and brass castings; iron fronts for buildings, and stoves. In connection with the foundry and machine shop, there is also a shop in which patterns are made, and another in which general blacksmithing is done. An engine of forty horse power is used in these works. Mr. H. F. Shulte is foreman, and generally has employed about six men.

Besides the manufacturing establishments we have enumerated, there is a furniture factory, candy factories, a soda water factory, a glove factory, cigar factory, a box factory, a tannery, a pork packing house, etc., etc. The machinery for a woolen mill is already here, a lot has been secured, and before this notice is put to press the mill will most likely be in operation, or at all events well under way.

There is also an old established and successfully worked pottery, which we neglected to mention in the proper place.

WATER WORKS.

The Santa Rosa Water Works were incorporated in January, 1873, with \$100,000 capital. On the 1st of May active operations were commenced. The water is taken from the Santa Rosa creek, about five miles from Santa Rosa. It is led in seven-inch pipe one and a-quarter miles to a reservoir. In the fall of the year of organization the water was brought to the city and distributed through the town.

In 1875 a majority of the stock of the company was purchased by Mark L. McDonald, of San Francisco.

In the latter part of 1876, Jackson R. Myers purchased an interest in the company, and became the manager. It was determined to erect a new reservoir about half a mile below the old one. The work was completed in the spring of 1877, and it is one of the best constructed and arranged reservoirs in the State. It is about eighteen hundred feet long, and is six hundred feet wide, and when full will have a depth of twenty-four feet, affording an abundant supply of pure mountain water for the people of the city, and also a safeguard against conflagration. To the capital and enterprise of Mark McDonald, and

good judgment of Mr. Myers, the people are indebted for that greatest of all blessings—a cheap and bountiful supply of water. Mr. McDonald, by his public spirit, has inseparably connected his name with the city of Santa Rosa.

GAS WORKS.

The Maxim Gas Company was incorporated April, 1872, the citizens of Santa Rosa taking one-half the stock, and Maxim Gas Company, of San Francisco, holding the balance. They erected a brick building on Fifth street near Mendocino, and laid about four thousand feet of mains. The citizens subsequently bought all the stock and ran the Maxim works until the spring of 1876, when they were sold to the new company, formed under the name of the Santa Rosa Gas Light Company, incorporated March 9, 1876, under L. A. Kelly's supervision. The company put up, at an expense of thirty thousand dollars, one of the finest and most complete set of coal-gas works on this coast. The new works are located on First street, just below Main, and consist of a large brick retort house, with iron roof, brick purifying house in the rear, office and workshop, with large holder, twenty thousand cubic feet capacity, with brick cistern. They have six-inch pipe running from their retorts all through the works, and up First and Main streets to the plaza, about two thousand feet, when it connects with four-inch pipe. The new company have laid about eight thousand feet of mains the last year, and expect to lay fifteen thousand feet this year, and as much main as is necessary to keep pace with the rapid growth of the town. Mr. Kelly said, when building the works, that he would build with capacity for supplying a town of fifteen thousand inhabitants without having to make any change, and expected to live and see them run to their complete and full capacity. The officers of the company are: John C. Paxton, president; E. T. Farmer, vice president; John Ager, secretary; L. A. Kelly, superintendent.

CITY STREET-CAR RAILROAD COMPANY.

This company was organized in 1877, and the capital invested in it was mainly furnished by Mark McDonald. The builder of the road and manager of the company is Jackson R. Myers. The route is two miles in length, leading up Fourth street from the depot to McDonald avenue, and out the avenue to the cemetery. The cost of the road was about \$10,000.

STREETS. *

There are between forty and fifty miles of street in Santa Rosa. They range from fifty to eighty feet in width; the side-walks are from eight to twenty feet in width. Both streets and side-walks are macadamized with coarse gravel. Fourth street is a mile and a half long; it is the principal business street, passing along the north side of the plaza. Sonoma avenue is on the south side of Santa Rosa creek, in E. T. Farmer's addition. It is eighty feet wide, and will extend in a short time for three miles. It will eventually become a fashionable drive and promenade.

MCDONALD AVENUE.—This is one of the leading streets in Santa Rosa. It was laid out through a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land lying on the border of the city, purchased by Col. Mark L. McDonald, of San Francisco. It is beautifully diversified with clusters of oaks. The soil is extremely fertile, and the tract has been subdivided into town and villa lots. The avenue is handsomely laid out with broad drives, and side-walks, along which, on either side, are rows of eucalyptus trees. Its length is a little short of one mile, leading into Fourth, the principal thoroughfare and business street of the city. A street railway runs from the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad depot, up Fourth street, into and through McDonald avenue, where it terminates. The cars run every few minutes, affording the utmost facilities for the accommodation of residents of that part of the city. The proprietor of these grounds has spared no pains to make it the most desirable and beautiful portion of this most beautiful of cities—Santa Rosa.

Gas and water pipes are laid through the avenue, uniting all the conveniences of city life with pure air and rural scenery. The landscape gardener now smoothes down the furrows of the fields, and the builder marks out his foundations upon ground over which, but a short time ago, the ripe grain bent before the wanton summer breeze.

It is not too much to say that, by his liberal investments, Mr. McDonald has given a further impetus to the rapid growth of Santa Rosa, and deserves the good wishes of all the citizens of this growing city and those who sojourn upon its borders.

SONOMA DEMOCRAT.

The first number of this paper was issued in Santa Rosa, on the 16th of October, 1857, by A. W. Russell. August 20, 1858, Russell sold to E. R. Budd and S. H. Fowler. November 12, 1858, Fowler retired, and was succeeded by B. F. Pinkham. In April, 1860, the *Democrat* was purchased by T. L. Thompson, who became sole proprietor. Mr. T. L. Thompson is one of the oldest, and has the reputation of being one of the most energetic and successful publishers in the State. The success of the *Democrat* entitles him to that distinction. It is a quarto, of ten pages, containing each week not less than two hundred and thirty thousand ems, of which one-half is miscellaneous, local and editorial matter. In 1868 Mr. Thompson disposed of the paper to Peabody, Ferrall & Co. He re-purchased it in the summer of 1871, since which time R. A. Thompson and F. P. Thompson have been actively associated with him in the editorial and business departments of the paper. The *Democrat* has been a staunch advocate of the interests of this portion of the State, and especially of the city of Santa Rosa. It has received a liberal support from the generous and appreciative people of Sonoma county. It has a large circulation in northwest California, and sends not less than five hundred papers to subscribers in the Eastern States, which, of itself, is equal to the average circulation of most county newspapers. It may not be out of place here to state that the combined circulation of the three oldest papers of Sonoma county is larger, in proportion to population, than in any county in the United States, according to Rowell's Newspaper Directory. The *Democrat* is printed on a

steam-power press, and is equipped with a job office complete in all its appointments.

The Santa Rosa *Daily Democrat* was started in July, 1875, T. L. Thompson, proprietor; R. A. and T. L. Thompson, editors. The *Daily Democrat* has an increasing business, and labors zealously in the interests of Santa Rosa. It is published every afternoon from the *Democrat* building, on Exchange street, and contains the latest telegraphic reports from all parts of the world, up to the hour of going to press.

THE SANTA ROSA PRESS AND TIMES.

The Santa Rosa *Press* was started in 1874 by William A. Wheeler. It was published irregularly until December, 1875, when the material was purchased by G. H. Marr, who changed the name to the Santa Rosa *Times*, and has since continued the publication. The *Times* is Republican in politics, and receives a liberal support. Mr. Marr, the editor and proprietor, is an experienced newspaper man, and makes a readable and interesting journal. He has always exhibited a lively interest in all that would advance the welfare of Santa Rosa. The *Times* is published every Thursday morning; the publication rooms are on Fourth street. There is also a job office connected with the paper, in which excellent work of all kinds is executed.

FULTON.

Fulton is a flourishing town on the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad. It lies five miles north of Santa Rosa, and is the terminus of the branch railroad to Guerneville. This road was built in 1876, and makes Fulton a very lively railroad centre.

The town was laid off in 1871 by Thomas and James Fulton, from whom it takes its name, two of the most worthy of the adopted sons of Sonoma. The town has one hotel, one variety, and one grocery store, one butcher shop, two blacksmith's shops, two saloons, one grain warehouse, one boot and shoe shop, and one freight and passenger depot. The postmaster is Thomas Fulton; express agent, C. H. Bean. The annual shipments of produce are about 9,000 cords of wood, about 1,000 cords of tan-bark, 150 car loads of charcoal, and large quantities of lumber, wheat, fruit, butter, and general farm products.

WINDSOR.

The village of Windsor is located on the main county-road leading from Santa Rosa to Healdsburg, nine miles northwest from Santa Rosa and six miles southeast of Healdsburg; it is within less than a mile of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad.

The first we hear of Windsor as a town, or rather as a local habitation with a name, was in 1854, when a post-office was established, to which the first postmaster, Hiram Lewis, gave the name of Windsor, perhaps after Windsor park or forest—as the place was surrounded on all sides by trees, which gave it a park-like appearance. In 1857 Lewis sold it to Thad. Deshier. A man named Emmerson opened the first hotel, known as the Windsor hotel. The place is now owned (and is run as a hotel) by Thomas Hopkins. The

first physician in the place was Dr. Wilson, who sold out to Dr. Davis, the only physician now in Windsor.

The first store was opened by a man named Buckalew, in 1856, on the lot where William Clark's dwelling now stands. About the same time Davis W. Graham started a blacksmith-shop. In 1857 Rosenberg & Linhemen bought the store. In 1861 Rosenberg & Bros. succeeded this firm, and built a large store-house, and kept it until 1870. They were succeeded by Kelsy & Livingston, who closed the business. The house is still used by T. J. Hopkins for a store. Kruse & Petray opened the second store in Windsor, in 1865, in a house which they built near where H. H. Lafferty's shoe-shop now stands. Harrison Barnes bought Kruse's interest, and sold out in 1867 to Crane, Hendley & Co., who were succeeded by Northcutt & Co., and then by Clark & Lindsay. The latter firm commenced business in 1871, and still continue.

H. H. Lafferty started a shoe-shop in 1864, and still remains in the same place. In March, 1868, the town was located as a town-site under the State law. It was surveyed in October, 1868, by Henry Terry. There are five stores and groceries in the town, two butcher-shops, one saloon, one saddle and harness-shop, one shoe-shop, two wheelwrights, two blacksmiths, one tin-shop, one hotel, one physician, one painter, one boarding-house, one school-house, one Masonic and one I. O. O. F. hall, one church; there are in all about twenty business-houses, thirty residences, and a total population of about two hundred and fifty souls. J. J. Lindsay is postmaster; W. Clark is Wells, Fargo & Co.'s agent; T. J. Jones and Thomas McQuestion are justices of the peace.

HEALDSBURG.

Healdsburg is beautifully located on Russian river, near the confluence of Dry creek with that river. The town is built upon a gravelly plateau, lying between rich valleys; Russian River valley on the east, and Dry Creek valley on the west.

The most striking feature of the landscape near Healdsburg is Sotoyome, sometimes less appropriately called Fitch mountain. It is a shapely, isolated hill, around the base of which Russian river winds a tortuous course, as if reluctant to leave the flowery and beautiful valley to mingle its waters with the sea.

On an air line, Healdsburg is about sixty-five miles north of San Francisco; it lies a little west of north of that city, and is by railroad about thirty-five miles north of Petaluma, and is fifteen miles northerly from Santa Rosa. It is near the centre of the widely famed Russian River valley, upon land formerly included within the bounds of the Sotoyome grant, owned by Henry D. Fitch.

There were a few settlers in the valley in 1847, among them were the Fitchs', the Pinas', Cyrus Alexander, Frank Bedwell, the Gordons', Mose Carson and W. J. March. Among the earliest settlers, after the discovery of gold, was Lindsay Carson, T. W. Hudson and family, H. M. Willson and family, the Healds,—the first to come was Harmon G. Heald—J. G. McManus, E. H. Barnes, William Walters, Valentine Miller, A. B. Aull, H. P. Matheson, Aaron Hassett, John Hassett, Isaac Staly, J. C. Laymance, A. Ruaak, and

others whose names we cannot at this moment recall. There was an Englishman of some notoriety who settled above March's mill, in 1851, named Frank Maryatt. He afterward published in book-form some very interesting reminiscences of his life on Russian river, under the title of "Mountain and Mole-hill, or Recollections of a Burnt Journal."

FOUNDERS OF THE TOWN.

The people in that section did not crystalize around a centre until 1856, when the town of Healdsburg was laid off by Harmon G. Heald, who purchased the tract from the estate of H. D. Fitch. Among the first to give it a start, were Heald, Mitchell and Hooper. In 1857 the first post-office, which had been called Russian River, was changed to Healdsburg. H. G. Heald and H. M. Willson started a store, a man by the name of Moore a blacksmith shop, and Heald and Harris a hotel. Thus Healdsburg had its start, and grew rapidly.

On the 20th day of November, 1857, the population was reported at five hundred. There were two brick stores erected by Mr. Rathburn, an academy building for one hundred and twenty-five students, a fire company, with engines and ladders, a Masonic hall, Sons of Temperance and concert hall, three livery stables, a paint shop, a billiard saloon, and twenty business houses,—in all about one hundred and twenty houses.

Healdsburg, from its location and surrounding salubrious climate and many material advantages, would have soon grown to be a town of the first importance, but for the unsettled condition of land titles, which retarded its progress. The land was owned by absentees who had bought up the original Spanish titles on speculation. A large number of persons came into the valley and settled upon these lands just as they would have done on public land. The efforts made to dispossess them led to the so-called squatter war, of which Healdsburg was the seat. It lasted for about seven years, and at one time more than a thousand men were arrayed upon either side. Captain L. A. Norton was agent for most of the land owners, and by a wise and liberal policy sold the squatters at reasonable rates and on a long time, the land which they had improved, and thus gradually put an end to this great obstacle in the road of progress.

We have here space only for a glance at the past history of Healdsburg. In 1867 the town was incorporated under the law of the State, as it then existed. A board of trustees was elected, and L. A. Norton was the first president of the board. A full list of trustees and other town officers, from the first board down to the present, will elsewhere be found in this book. In 1874 a special law was passed, incorporating under a charter the present city of Healdsburg.

The population of Healdsburg is about two thousand five hundred. The people are enterprising and public-spirited, always ready when called upon to promote the interests of the city or the surrounding country.

Great interest has always been taken in education by the people of Healdsburg. There are two excellent private academies; the Alexander Institute and the Butler Academy. Both are conducted with marked ability, and give great

satisfaction to those who patronize them. There is a very commodious public school building, with an efficient corps of teachers, at which there is a daily attendance of more than three hundred and twenty-five students. The principal of the public school is O. S. Ingram, A. M., and his assistants are Miss Peterson, Miss Beck, Miss Gales, Miss Givens and Miss Allen. There are also several excellent private schools in the town.

There is one bank and five hotels, all well patronized, some of which make a specialty of receiving guests for the summer, who come up from the cold and dust-laden atmosphere of the metropolis, to spend the summer months in the delightful climate of Healdsburg. There are fifteen dry-goods and grocery stores; three drug stores; six blacksmith and wagon shops; one paint manufactory; one flour mill; one planing-mill, sash and door factory; two lumber yards; one glove factory; two tanneries; one patent knitting establishment, and one soap factory.

The history of newspapers in Healdsburg has been varied and interesting.

In January, 1860, the pioneer publisher, A. J. Cox, issued the *Review*, and continued the publication somewhat irregularly until 1863, when it suspended entirely.

In May, 1864, Fenno & Warren commenced the *Advertiser*, with Mr. Cox as editor. It suspended; was revived in 1865 with J. E. Fenno as publisher, and Mr. Cox as editor. Its revival was but the flickering of the light in the socket, which preceded the total extinction of the *Advertiser*.

On the 7th day of October, 1865, the first number of the *Democratic Standard* was issued in Healdsburg. It was published by W. R. Morris and W. A. C. Smith, under the firm name of W. R. Morris & Co.

On the 3d of October, 1866, Mr. Morris became sole proprietor, and a few weeks after transferred a half interest to J. B. Fitch.

In January, 1867, Mr. Fitch became sole proprietor, and a month later sold out to Boggs & Menefee. A few weeks later Mr. Boggs retired, W. A. C. Smith taking his place, and the firm became Menefee & Co.

In the winter of 1867-8 the office was again transferred to Fitch & Davis.

In the fall of 1868 the material and good-will of the paper were sold to John G. Howell, and it was suspended. Mr. Howell immediately commenced the publication of the *Russian River Flag*, which still survives, a credit to the city of Healdsburg and its publisher, L. A. Jordon. The *Flag* has always been Republican in politics, and its first editor, J. G. Howell, gave it high rank as a local paper, and impressed his individuality on its editorial columns.

In 1876 Mr. Howell sold the paper to Jordon Bros., Mr. L. A. Jordon succeeding as sole proprietor. The paper is under the editorial control of S. P. Mead and L. A. Jordon, and is an able, well conducted and influential journal. The *Flag* has been an important factor in the growth of Healdsburg, and we hope the proprietor will reap the rich reward for his labor which is so justly his due.

The Healdsburg *Enterprise* was started in the spring of 1876 by Mulgrew Bros. & Wood. It has achieved a remarkable and well-deserved success. It is Democratic in politics. The *Enterprise* seemed, from its inception, to make a specialty of promoting the local interests of Healdsburg, and it has ever

since labored efficiently and effectively in this field. It is well and carefully edited—typographically it shows the supervision of an experienced printer. Unlike the early journalistic ventures in Healdsburg, the *Enterprise* was a success from its first issue. It was bravely launched, and may prosperous breezes continue to swell its sails.

There are seven churches in Healdsburg: one Methodist; one Methodist South; one Presbyterian; one Baptist; one Christian; one Catholic; one Adventist.

There is one Masonic lodge; one Lodge of Odd Fellows; one Lodge of Good Templars, and one Grange. The Odd Fellows and the Masons have each a hall that would do credit to a city of greater population than Healdsburg. The Grange is by far the most prosperous in the county. They have a large hall, beneath which is a co-operative store, patronized not only by Grangers, but by many people of Healdsburg who do not belong to the Grange. The Grange numbers among its members many of the most enterprising and intelligent citizens of Russian River valley.

Healdsburg has for its source of wealth, first, the rich agricultural lands which surround it. Nothing can surpass the fertility of the soil of Russian River and Dry Creek Valleys. In the virgin state, under favorable circumstances, they would produce one hundred bushels of wheat or corn to the acre. The fertility has been maintained nearly at its maximum by the annual overflow of the streams, which brings down a rich alluvial mold, fertilizing the land as the delta of the Nile is fertilized. Fortunately this rich land is cut up into small farms from twenty to one hundred acres each, which fact adds greatly to the prosperity of the town of Healdsburg.

There is neither extreme cold in winter nor heat in summer in the town, which is protected from the harshness of the summer winds by the hills upon the west, and the winter climate is moderated by that great equalizer of temperature—the sea—with its warm current sweeping from Asia to the northwest coast of America, whence it turns southward, and materially affects the climate on the coast of California.

The town is well supplied with water of the finest quality. It can be obtained in wells, pure and soft as rain water, at no great depth below the surface. Besides this, water is brought to the town from Sotoyome mountain, which we have before mentioned. A bold, limpid and sparkling spring flows from the bosom of that shapely hill as if Nature designed it for the special use of the fortunate people who were in the future to found a city at its base. The water from this spring supplies the town for domestic purposes, and has a sufficient fall to be used effectively in case of fire.

Healdsburg is built on gravelly soil, and to this fact the town is indebted for its excellent streets and drives, which do not get dusty in summer or muddy in winter. There are a number of places of interest near the town. The noted Geyser springs are but sixteen miles away. Litton Springs, a popular and fashionable summer resort, is not more than four miles distant. At the head of Dry creek are the widely-celebrated Skaggs' springs, which are crowded every summer with visitors. The quicksilver mines of Sonoma are in easy reach of Healdsburg; the Sausal mines are but seven miles; the Oakland is

sixteen miles northeast, and the Great Eastern and Mount Jackson mines, whose business place is Healdsburg, are sixteen miles southwest.

Want of space prevents us from writing more of this beautiful city. The subject grows on us, and we leave it with regret.

HEALDSBURG EXPORT FOR 1876.

Grapes, boxes.....	6,700
Dried fruit, pounds.....	138,600
Green " "	84,150
Miscellaneous mdse, pounds.....	171,765
Vegetables, "	138,980
Wool, "	148,867
Tan bark, "	80,000
Hops, "	36,250
Hides and tallow, "	69,700
Wine, gallons.....	10,732
Grain, tons.....	1,245
Lumber, feet.....	187,500
Leather, sides.....	5,880
Flour, barrels.....	646
Live stock, cars.....	252
Poultry, coops.....	131
Wood, cords.....	92
Eggs, boxes.....	44
Quicksilver, flasks.....	322

GEYSERVILLE.

Geyserville is a village and post-office on the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad, about twenty-four miles north of the county-seat, Santa Rosa. It was settled by Dr. Elisha Ely in 1851. The first business-house was a store started in 1854 by Colonel A. C. Godwin, who afterwards located the Geyser springs. Colonel Godwin went east in 1861, and was killed in the civil war.

At present there is one store in the village, one post and express-office, one saloon, one hotel, and one blacksmith-shop. The hill-land about Geyserville is well adapted to fruit-culture, especially to the growth of wine-grapes. It would not surprise us if the wines of that section would become famous. There is every essential in soil and climate for the growth of the best varieties of grapes, stone and seed fruits.

CLOVERDALE.

Far up the valley, where the hills draw together, with Russian river flowing between, is snugly nestled the town of Cloverdale. It is a few miles south of the northern boundary of the county. North of Cloverdale for one hundred miles on the waters of Russian river and its tributaries, there are a series of small, beautiful and fertile valleys, separated by spurs from the main range, which extend as bluffs to the river, and link the valleys as a chain. The hills

back of the river are in the main bare of trees, and produce an abundant grass crop, upon which thousands of sheep are kept. These hills and valleys form a portion of the back-country of Cloverdale. The Indians remained long about the mouth of Sulphur creek, and up that stream as far as the Geysers, receding only when the ever-increasing pressure of the white race forced them back.

In 1856 R. Markle and a man named Miller purchased eight hundred and fifty acres of land, which included the present site of the town of Cloverdale. The first merchant north of Geyserville was a man named Levi Rosenberg. He had a store on the east side of the river, near the mouth of Sulphur creek. In 1857 J. H. Hartman and F. G. Hahman, pioneer merchants of Santa Rosa, conceived the idea of opening a trading-post at Markle's place, which was on the main highway to Ukiah and Humboldt, if a pack-trail can be properly termed a "highway." The store was opened under the firm-name of Hartman & Hahman, and about the same time Markle opened a tavern for the accommodation of travelers and pack-trains. Thus originated the town of Cloverdale. It was situated in a beautiful semi-circular valley, covered with clover, and Mr. Hartman gave it the appropriate name of Cloverdale, which it fortunately yet retains. Mrs. Markle was the first woman who settled in the new town, or rather, who settled there before there was a town. She is said, by those who knew her, to have been remarkably pretty—a peculiarity for which her successors of the fairer sex in Cloverdale are still noted.

In 1859 J. A. Kleiser purchased the interest of R. B. Markle in the land, and the town was laid off. Hartman & Hahman sold out to Levi & Co. Others came in, but the town grew slowly. It slept, as it were, in its cradle for a decade, when one day it was awakened by the scream of the iron-horse, which halted on its threshold. Lots went up, and expectations (not to be gratified in the near future) led to over-speculation in town lots and land; a re-action set in, from which the place has recently recovered, and it has commenced a steady and healthy growth. Cloverdale is a center from which stage-roads branch out in many directions: first, the principal (and easiest) route to the Geyser springs starts from Cloverdale; these springs are but sixteen miles distant from the town. There is also a daily stage line to Lakeport, and from there to the celebrated Bartlett springs, and a daily line of stages to Ukiah—and, through Anderson valley, to the Navarra ridge, in Mendocino county—both of which lead through a rich and soon to be thickly-settled country. From Cloverdale to San Francisco the distance is about eighty-five miles. Trains of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad leave Cloverdale twice every day for the city, and return there at 12 M. and 8 P. M. every day.

Russian River valley, in the neighborhood of Cloverdale, can nowhere be surpassed for beauty and salubrity of climate. Its soil is fertile, and the river bottom lands are well adapted to the growth of hops. The hill land in this section of the county is well suited to grape-culture. Here is combined that geniality of soil and climate essential for the production of a light and highly-flavored wine.

In the town there are about a dozen stores, two good hotels, and the usual number of other business places. The public-school building is well construc-

ted, and presents, with its shade of native oaks, a very attractive appearance. There is a Congregational church, of which J. W. Atherton is pastor, and a Methodist Church South, W. P. Andrews, pastor. There is an I. O. O. F. and a Masonic lodge, and a Grange, which hold regular meetings.

The Cloverdale water works supply the town with water for all demands, with sufficient head to be effective in case of fire. There are a number of very neat residences in the town, more in proportion than in most places of no greater population. Among the best are the houses of I. E. Shaw, H. Kier, J. F. Hoadley, and the pioneer, J. A. Kleiser. The town has a thrifty and healthy look. It boasts of one newspaper, an excellent local journal. The population is about seven hundred.

The town was incorporated by special act of the legislature of 1875-6. Following is a list of the city and township officers: J. A. Kleiser, G. V. Davis, John Fields, M. W. King, John Dixon, trustees; D. B. Morgan, clerk and recorder; W. J. McCracken, marshal; D. C. Brush and D. B. Morgan, justices of the peace, and J. Shores, constable.

In the spring of 1872 W. J. Bowman started the *Cloverdale Review*, the first paper in that town. After a few issues he abandoned the enterprise. Soon after, J. B. Baccus commenced the publication of the *Cloverdale Bee*, which he continued for about six months, and then removed the material of the paper to Lakeport, and commenced the publication of the *Lakeport Bee*, an excellent journal, which still continues.

In November, 1876, the *Cloverdale News* was started by W. S. Walker; after issuing several numbers Mr. Walker sold his interest to J. F. Hoadley, and the paper is now under the editorial control of J. F. Hoadley, Jr. Mr. H. is young in the business, but makes a very readable paper, which will bear its full share in the future development of the interests of the city of Cloverdale and the surrounding country.

SHIPMENTS OF PRODUCE FROM CLOVERDALE IN 1876.

	Pounds.
Dry hides	1,437
Green "	874 64,954
Wool, bales.....	4,218
" $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1,200 1,510,631
Hops, bales.....	1,630 327,201
Quicksilver	101,536
Tallow, packages.....	353 20,080
Poultry, dozen	3,920 296,000
Eggs, dozen.....	47,000 94,000

SEBASTOPOL.

In 1855 J. H. P. Morris took up a claim of one hundred and twenty acres, where the town of Sebastopol now stands; he was the first settler. Mr. Morris came to Sonoma in 1853; he was in business for a while at Miller & Walker's store on the road just south of the present town, then known as the Bodega post-office. Miller & Walker's store was quite a noted place from 1849 up to 1854, as it was the post-office for all the coast and Russian River country, as far

north as population extended; J. N. Miller was the postmaster. Mr. Morris moved a building from Miller & Walker's to his claim, and put it where Ben Dougherty's house stands. The same year he deeded John Dougherty a lot to move his store, which stood on the Levi Johnson place, to his claim. So the town took a start. Mr. Morris called it Pine Grove,—a more appropriate name than that which it now bears. The formidable name of Sebastopol originated in this way: a man named Jeff Stevens and a man named Hibbs had a fight; Hibbs made a quick retreat to Dougherty's store; Stevens in pursuit. Dougherty stopped Stevens, and forbid him to come on his (Dougherty's) premises. The Crimean war was raging at that time, and the allies were besieging Sebastopol, which it was thought they would not take. The Pine Grove boys, who were always keen to see a fight,—chagrined at the result,—cried out that Dougherty's store was Hibbs' Sebastopol. The affair was much talked about, and from this incident the town took its name.

Captain Auser started the first hotel where Wilson's exchange now is; John Bowman bought out Auser, and the late Henry Wilson succeeded him in 1859. Sebastopol is eight miles west of Santa Rosa, on the west edge of Santa Rosa valley,—at the foot of the low divide, between Santa Rosa and Green valley. It has a delightful climate, and the view of the valley and Mayacmas range, from the hills back of the town, is beautiful. Some day it will become a popular place for villa residences.

The Lafayette Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was installed January 8, 1855,—B. F. Branscom is worshipful master, and G. W. Sanborn is secretary. The lodge owns a commodious hall over the Presbyterian church. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church, known as the Sebastopol congregation, was organized in 1851, and was first known as the Bodega congregation; the pastor in charge is R. P. Lemon. The Methodist Church was organized in 1866. The pastor of the Green Valley Church holds service twice a month in the church at Sebastopol.

The merchants of Sebastopol are J. Dougherty, Wilton & Andrews, H. Altmann and G. H. Stowell. There is also a livery stable, kept by B. B. Berry; a hotel, butcher-shop, blacksmith-shop and two physicians. There is a literary society, a temperance society, and a Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, with thirty members, which was instituted in 1873. The present population of the town is two hundred and fifty.

FORRESTVILLE.

Forrestville is situated twelve miles northwest of Santa Rosa, on the border of the timber country, in what is known as Green valley. The Guernville branch of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad passes within one and a half miles of the town. It was first settled by A. J. Forrester, now in San Louis Obispo county, from whom it takes its doubly-appropriate name. A great many persons who live in Forrestville find employment cutting cordwood and tan-bark for the San Francisco market; besides there is a good market in the surrounding country for posts, pickets, fence-rails, &c. There is a graded public-school in the town of ninety-two scholars, taught by John

Scott; a Methodist Episcopal Church of sixty members; and near the town the Adventists have a comfortable house of worship. There is a general store kept by J. C. Bonsall, one blacksmith-shop kept by Oliver & Harbine, one hotel, one saloon, one butcher-shop, and one wagon-maker.

RUSTIC-CHAIR MANUFACTORY.

The chief industry in Forrestville is the Rustic-Chair Factory now owned and run by John Hamlett. There is quite a little history connected with this enterprise, which will not be out of place here. Over twenty-five years ago Major Isaac Sullivan, in Green valley, made the first rustic chairs, and sold them at five dollars apiece; they are still in use, and are doing good service. The factory for the manufacture of these chairs as a specialty, was started by S. Fandre on Russian river, three miles from Forrestville. He continued the business for five or six years, selling chairs from two to three dollars apiece. He then moved the factory to Forrestville, where it has been for the past ten years. Fandre made at Forrestville about thirty thousand chairs, and sold out to S. P. Nowlin, who ran it at a lively rate for six years, making and selling during that time over sixty-five thousand chairs. He then sold to the present proprietor, Mr. Hamlett, who is making and selling about twelve thousand chairs a year.

The material used in the manufacture of these chairs is the chestnut or tan-bark oak, which we have elsewhere described, and ash. Out of these woods the posts and rounds are made; the backs are made of alder and fir; the bottoms of raw-hide cut into narrow stripes, and interlaced when wet and pliable. In drying, the hide draws taut, making an indestructible bottom. The rounds are turned green, and kiln-dried until seasoned. The posts are turned green, are steamed bent, and worked before they dry out, so that when mortised, bored and drawn together with the seasoned rounds and backs, the post seasons on the rounds, and it is not possible to take them apart without splitting the posts from the back or round. The raw-hide bottom is put on last, and binds the whole frame still more firmly.

These chairs are disposed of in a manner peculiar to this factory. They are loaded in four-horse wagons, from two to four hundred chairs to the load, and are hauled all over the State of California and Nevada. They have been hauled to Yreka, Honey Lake, Surprise Valley, in fact, to every town in the State where a wagon can get. South they have been sent, on wagons, to San Bernadino, up Owen's river to White Pine and Elko; a great many were sold at Gold Hill and in Virginia City. Some of these seasoned chairs were shipped to Colorado and to Tucson, in New Mexico, where they sold as high as eight dollars apiece. The price was generally regulated by the distance hauled, the scarcity of lumber and the amount of coin in sight. The object was to make the chairs net the manufacturer eighteen dollars per dozen. As an exemplification of the benefits of manufactures, we will state that this chair factory alone has brought into the county not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

GUERNEVILLE.

Guerneville is a lumber manufacturing village in the Russian River red-woods, and situated about sixteen miles northwest of Santa Rosa. It was first settled on the 1st of May, 1860, by R. B. Lunsford. It is located on the bank of Russian river, on what is known as Big Bottom. Here stood the finest body of timber in the State; the bottom is about four miles long, and was covered by a dense growth of mammoth redwood trees, which, in the best localities, would yield at least eight hundred thousand feet of lumber to the acre. The largest tree in the bottom measured eighteen feet in diameter, and made one hundred and eighty thousand feet of lumber. The tallest tree was three hundred and forty-four feet nine inches in height. There was a hollow stump which stood just above the town, in which twenty horses could readily stand. An estimate of the timber in the Big Bottom appears elsewhere.

Heald & Guern's saw and planing-mill is located in the town. It employs about sixty men, and cuts between three and four million feet of lumber a year, making mouldings, brackets, scroll work, &c. Murphy Bros.' saw and planing-mill is located half a mile from the town; it cuts from twenty to twenty-five thousand feet a day, and employs about forty men. R. B. Lunsford's shingle-mill, near by, cuts from fifteen to twenty-five thousand shingles a day.

There is one general merchandise store in the town, one grocery store, one market, one boot and shoemaker, two hotels and one restaurant, one livery stable, one blacksmith shop and one wagon shop, one church, one public school, one lodge, (Enterprise, No. 356 of Independent Good Templars), and one chair-factory, run by S. W. Fandre. J. W. Bagley is postmaster. A branch of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad runs from Fulton on the main trunk to Guerneville. This road has just been completed, and connects the great Central valley of Sonoma county with the timber section. This affords a fine opportunity for tourists to see the redwood trees of Sonoma, second only in size to the mammoths of Calaveras. Four miles from Guerneville, Mount Jackson and the Great Eastern quicksilver mines are located. A wagon-road is proposed, and will be built from Guerneville to the coast, which will turn a large portion of the coast-travel via Guerneville to San Francisco. It is said that the narrow-gauge road will be extended from Moscow, its terminus on Russian river, to Guerneville.

FREESTONE.

General Vallejo says he was ordered by his government to extend the settlements of the frontier colony on the northwest, in the direction of the Russians, in 1835, and he invited the settlement of James McIntosh, James Dawson and James Black,—three James'. They settled on land afterwards granted to Black, called the Canada de Jonive, near the town of Freestone. They were the very first settlers, except the Russians, in all the Bodega country. They formed a partnership to build a saw-mill on Salmon creek. Black got from the Mexican government a grant of the Jonive ranch for this purpose. McIntosh and Dawson agreed to make application jointly to the Mexican government, for the grant known as the Estero Americano. Dawson furnished the money for McIntosh to go to Monterey to get the necessary papers. He accomplished

his purpose, and returned to Bodega from the capitol. Dawson, on examining the papers, found that they were made out in the name of McIntosh, and that he was left out in the cold. Well authenticated tradition says that when Dawson made this discovery, he first gave his partner a thrashing, and then with a cross-cut saw he sawed the house, in which they had been living, in two parts, and removed his half to the place where F. G. Blume's house now stands, in Freestone. In fact, we have been told that a portion of this, the only original severed house on record, stands to this day. Dawson afterwards applied for, and received the Canada de Pogolimi grant, and his widow, who afterwards married F. G. Blume, of Freestone, received a patent for the same.

The mill on the Jonive was completed, and run until 1849, by McIntosh, James Black, Thomas Butters, William Leighton, Thomas Wood, and a pioneer, who went by the euphonious soubriquet of "Blinking Tom." That year they sold all the lumber they had to F. G. Blume, and left for the gold mines.

In 1849 Jasper O'Farrell bought the Estero Americano ranch, of two leagues, one thousand five hundred head of cattle, and one hundred and fifty head of horses, in consideration of a promise to pay McIntosh an annuity of eight hundred dollars, or, should he elect in lieu of the annuity, the sum of five thousand dollars in cash. The latter sum was afterwards paid by Mr. O'Farrell, who acquired title to the property. Mr. Blume and his wife still reside within the limits of the town of Freestone, and are the oldest settlers. The Hon. Jasper O'Farrell exchanged a ranch, which he owned in Marin, with Black for the Jonive, on part of which Freestone stands. He resided there until his death, which occurred a few years ago.

Freestone is on the line of the narrow-gauge road just now completed, and has a very flattering prospect for the future. It is rapidly improving, and houses are in demand. It is within a few hours' travel of San Francisco, and trains pass the place every morning for that city, returning every afternoon. F. G. Blume is postmaster. There is one store, a blacksmith shop, two hotels, a livery stable, and a number of residences. And so the wheel of time has brought it round that in less than forty years after the settlement of the pioneers, Black, Dawson, and McIntosh, on the frontier of Bodega, to check-mate the Russians, the shrill whistle of the locomotive is echoed by the hills back of Ross as the trains speed by; but three hours from a city of three hundred thousand inhabitants—and the then defenceless colony, a dependent of a distracted government, has now become a great and powerful State in the American Union. Such a change would have seemed to the pioneer wilder and more improbable than the enchantment wrought by the Genii of Aladin's wonderful lamp.

MOSCOW.

This place is situated on Russian river, opposite the terminus of the coast narrow-gauge road at Duncan's mills. One of the principal mills of the Russian River Land and Lumber Company is located here. Just below here the railroad crosses the river, on a splendid Howe truss bridge, to Duncan's mill. It will doubtless grow to be a place of importance.

OCCIDENTAL POST-OFFICE.

This place is on the narrow-gauge road where it crosses the divide, between the waters flowing into O'Farrell valley on the south side, and through Howard cañon into Russian river on the north side. The station is called Howard's station, after William Howard, who settled there in 1849, and is still a resident of the place. The town-site belongs partly to Mr. Howard and partly to the Meeker Bros. It is a place of recent growth, but already boasts of a post, express, and telegraph office, a good hotel, general store, blacksmith shop, church, &c. Unlike most towns in Sonoma, it is surrounded by forests, and the stump of a tree stands in the main street, out of which one hundred and twenty thousand shingles were made. The Rev. M. George has charge of the church. The first store was started by McCaughey & Co., on the 4th of April, 1877. J. W. Noble opened a hotel in January, 1877, which is called the Summit House. The population of the place is about fifty souls.

DUNCAN'S MILL.

This village is situated on the south bank of Russian river, one and one-half miles from the sea. The mill was built in 1860 by S. M. & A. Duncan; it has been in successful operation for the past sixteen years; during that time a thriving village has grown up around it. In the town there is a hotel, a post and express office, store, and telegraph office, and a population of about one hundred. S. M. Duncan and his former partner, Hendy, were members of the first company organized to cut timber in Sonoma county. The company was formed of mechanics at work on the Benicia barracks, in 1849. Charles McDermott was president, and John Bailiff, secretary. The price of timber was then three hundred dollars a thousand. The company organized under the name of the Blumedale Lumber Company, in honor of F. G. Blume, on whose land, near the present town of Freestone, they built a mill. The price of lumber tumbled by the time the company got at work, and it soon after went into liquidation. Its effects were purchased, and it was revised under the firm name of Hendy & Duncan. General George Stoneman was a partner in the firm. They did not make it go, and the machinery was taken to the mines, where it was run awhile, and was brought back to the county in 1852 by Hendy & Duncan, who built at Salt Point the first steam saw-mill on the coast. From Salt Point the mill was removed to Russian river by S. M. & A. Duncan, and took the name of Duncan's mill. The boiler purchased by the Blumedale Company in 1849 is still used by A. Duncan, the successor of Hendy & Duncan, and S. M. & A. Duncan.

At this time, 1877, a joint stock company, known as the Duncan's Mill Land and Lumber Company, has been inaugurated, and the mill was moved to its present location, on the north side of Russian river, at a point where the North Pacific Railroad crosses the river, the present terminus of the road. It will retain its original name of Duncan's mill.

FORT ROSS.

We have elsewhere given a sketch of the early history of this place, the first settled by Europeans, north of San Francisco. Bodega bay was occupied by the

Russians in 1812; the stockade at Ross was built shortly after, with the double purpose of repelling the attacks of Indians or of the Californians, should either attempt to dispossess the fur hunters. It was admirably chosen for the purpose of defense. The Russians might have defied all the forces that could possibly have been brought against them, and did hold possession of the country around Ross until they were ready to leave, in 1840. The place is now owned by an enterprising citizen, Mr. G. W. Call, who uses it as a farm and dairy ranch.

There is an excellent shipping point at Ross, from which farm products, wood, posts, lumber, and tan-bark, are shipped by coasters directly to the city.

TIMBER COVE.

This is the next shipping point north of Ross. It was first used as such in 1856. It consists of a hotel, store, post, and express office, and several dwellings. W. R. Miller formerly had a saw-mill here, and an immense amount of lumber, posts, ties, cord-wood, and tan-bark have been shipped from this point.

SALT POINT

is a shipping place, four miles north of Timber Cove. It was first settled, as we have elsewhere stated, by Hendy & Duncan, and was once a place of considerable business importance. The chutes, and a large tract of land around it, are owned by a San Francisco firm.

FISK'S MILL

is situated three miles north of Salt Point. It was first occupied and used as a shipping point by J. C. Fisk, from whom the post-office takes its name. The place is now owned by F. M. Helmke, who has a beautiful home there by the sea. Mr. Helmke keeps the place in excellent order. His mill, which formerly stood here, has been moved higher up the coast. From this point a large amount of cord-wood, tan-bark, etc., is shipped. There is a post and express office at this place.

FISHERMAN'S BAY

is situated twenty-eight miles north of Russian river, and twelve miles south of Valhalla river. It was first settled in 1858, and contains a hotel, store and saloon, all owned by J. C. Fisk, who also has the shutes for shipping cord-wood, lumber, tan-bark, post, fencing and railroad ties. There is annually shipped from this point one thousand cords of tan-bark, five hundred cords of oak wood, sixty thousand posts, and eight million feet of lumber. The tan-bark is worth ten dollars per cord at the chute, wood six dollars per cord, posts six dollars per hundred, and lumber sixteen dollars per thousand. Population of the place about one hundred.

BODEGA.

This thriving village derives its name from the port of Bodega, near which it is situated, and the port from its discoverer, Juan Francisco de la Bodega. Bodega is on a portion of the tract farmed by the Russians, and had a number

of excellent houses upon it, built by them. After the departure of the Russians the land was granted to Captain Stephen Smith, who was the first American settler in that part of the county. Captain Smith owned a small vessel called the *Fayaway*, which he run between the Port of Bodega and San Francisco; in '49, fare was the moderate sum of fourteen dollars from Bodega to San Francisco, on the *Fayaway*.

The town of Bodega, near the Smith homestead, took its start in 1853. A man named Robinson started a saloon; Hughes, a blacksmith shop. Hughes and a man named Bowman built the first hotel, which was afterwards burned. Donald McDonald and Rositer Bros. were the first merchants in the town of Bodega. The oldest settlers in the neighborhood were James Watson, ex-Sheriff Potter, Mr. Higler and J. L. Springer. The town is now quite a prosperous place. It is situated in the center of a rich dairy country. It has three churches and a school-house built at a cost of five thousand dollars. There are one hundred and twenty-five children in the district, and two teachers are employed. There is also in the town a Masonic, Odd Fellows and Good Templars' Lodge. There are three stores, one shoemaker, one blacksmith and wagon shop, one hotel and two private boarding-houses, one livery stable, two physicians, and one butcher-shop. J. L. Springer is justice of the peace and postmaster. The population of the town is about two hundred and fifty.

TWO ROCK POST-OFFICE.

This post-office takes its name from two rather peculiar rocks, which were called by the Californians *Dos Piedros*. These rocks stood on a point where the *Blucher* and *Balsa de Tomales* ranchos cornered. They were also a landmark on the northwestern boundary of the Laguna de San Antonio, or Bojorques ranch. The old Mexican trail, from San Rafael to Bodega and Ross, passed between these two rocks, which were referred to, far and near, in speaking of that section. The first settlers, in the neighborhood of Two Rocks, were Samuel Tustin, J. R. Lewis, Charles Purvine, S. M. Martin, James and E. Denman. The post-office is at the junction of the Bloomfield and Tomales roads, about a mile and a-half from the two rocks from which it takes its name.

The farm where the post-office is located was first settled by John Schwobeda. He sold it to Charles Weigand, who now owns it and is postmaster. There is at the cross-roads, a Grange hall, a Presbyterian church and a blacksmith-shop. Two Rock is eight miles from Petaluma. It is surrounded by a rich and fertile country. Of the farms thereabouts that of S. M. Martin, containing three hundred and twenty acres, is one of the very best.

VALLEY FORD.

The town of Valley Ford is situated on the Estero Americano, four miles from its mouth.

Here the old Spanish and Indian trail leading from the interior ranchos to Tomales bay and the coast, crossed the Estero, hence the name which was given to the farm adjoining, and subsequently to the town. At this point the

trail forked, and the one which led up the valley was the route traveled from Bodega rancho to Sancelito.

It was the custom among the Indians in the back country to take two or three journeys each year to the coast for the purpose of feasting on shell-fish, and gathering shells for the manufacture of Indian money. Tomales bay and the coast to the east of the Estero, was the most frequented sea-side resort of the Indians. The trail which crossed the Estero where Valley Ford stands, was on the main route. After 1857 they ceased their annual pilgrimages. Often previous to that time their bands might be seen filing along the way, embracing all sorts and conditions of Digger Indian life, from "El Capitan," who usually rode a lean, half-tamed mustang, to the old crones with hugh baskets hung to their backs by a band across their foreheads, loaded with a promiscuous assortment of rags, old blankets, attole, pinole, papooses, cooking utensils, etc. The fording of the Estero was their usual halting place.

S. L. Fowler and J. E. Fowler arrived in San Francisco in May, 1849. After many hardships, chance brought them to Big valley, better known as the valley of the Estero Americano, then an unfenced wilderness. Not a furrow had been plowed, and a wealth of grass clothed the hills. They settled where the trail crossed the Estero, and purchased of F. G. Blume six hundred and forty acres of land lying between the Ebabias creek and the Estero. In July following they built a house two hundred yards from the ford.

Thomas Smith, who had been engaged running a saw-mill with Messrs. Hendy & Duncan, near where John Vanderleith now lives, built a cabin on the point between Ebabias creek and the Estero, which tract they had purchased of F. G. Blume, and, with his partner, R. Gahen, prepared to put in a crop of potatoes.

Sanford & Stone located across the creek on the place now owned by Roach & Webber. They received a portable grist-mill from the east, and in the winter of 1852 and 1853 they ground the grain raised in the neighborhood. The mill was small and the flour coarse and unbolted, but they were kept busy by the settlers, who waited their turn at the mill.

Whitehead Fowler came to the country in 1852. The same year E. Thurber settled upon the tract east of town, now owned by A. P. Garver. These were the first settlers at Valley Ford and the adjoining ranches.

In May, 1854, Stephen C. Fowler and his wife, the parents of S. L., James E., and W. Fowler, with their three sons, John H., Benjamin, and Nathaniel, arrived at Valley Ford. Mrs. Fowler was the first female resident of the town, and both she and her husband have resided continuously in the latter place from that day to this, having now attained the ripe age of eighty years—recently celebrating the fifty-fifth anniversary of their marriage in their residence on the Estero.

What had been formerly but an Indian trail had now become a well traveled road. Several other persons took up claims, among them were some having families, but by far the greater number "bached it." A crop of oats yielding one hundred bushels to the acre was raised in the summer of 1854 upon what is now the town site.

In 1856 Thomas Smith run his grist-mill with twelve horses and two runs of stone. Two years later a steam engine took the place of horses, and the mill soon became famous for the excellent quality of flour made there.

In the fall of 1861 Daniel Hall opened a blacksmith shop. In the spring of 1861 John H. Fowler opened a general merchandise business. A bridge was built across the creek about the same time. James E. Fowler opened a lumber-yard, and E. B. & J. W. Palmer built a carpenter shop. In 1863 the Methodist church was built. J. N. Rien built the Valley Ford hotel in 1864. An express and post-office was established. There is a lodge of Good Templars and a Templar hall. A Methodist society, and a Presbyterian society, with a Sunday-school. A district-school is kept in the village.

In the summer of 1876 the North Pacific Coast Railroad Company extended their road through the town, and built a neat depot. The people can now reach San Francisco in about four hours' time. Previous to the building of this road the people received their goods and hauled their produce to and from Petaluma, a distance of eighteen miles, and traveled the same route to San Francisco; hence they welcomed the railroad which brought an end to those tedious journeys.

In 1876 P. E. Merritt opened a new grocery store in the place. J. Parry opened a tin shop, and John Hunter opened a meat market. With her railroad facilities, fine climate, and rich and productive surrounding country, why should not Valley Ford continue to grow and prosper?

BLOOMFIELD.

This town is situated at the head of Big valley, or the valley of the Estero Americano. It was first settled by Judge Cockrill and Bill Zilhardt. A man named Lamb started the first store. Among the earliest settlers in the neighborhood were W. P. Hinshaw, W. H. White, L. D. Cockrill, Henry Hall, John Linebaugh, Alonzo Walker, the late John Peters, Hugh Stockton, Wm. Jones, Hon. E. C. Hinshaw, and O. P. Hoag. There is a post, express and telegraph office in the town; two stores, one hotel, three churches, (Presbyterian, Methodist, and Advent), one Masonic hall, and a lodge of Odd Fellows; one harness and three blacksmith shops, one cooper shop, and a flouring mill. The population is about two hundred and fifty. There is an excellent public school with over a hundred scholars. The place is surrounded by as rich a farming and dairy country as there is in the State of California.

STONY POINT.

This was formerly a post-office on the road from Macedonia church to Bloomfield. The Stony Point House was on the farm of P. N. Woodworth, who settled there as early as 1851. There is nothing there now, the hotel having been discontinued. The post-office has been moved to the Washoe House, about two miles off, but is still called Stony Point. At the Washoe House, (which is on one of the roads from Bloomfield to Petaluma), also on the west road from Petaluma to Santa Rosa, there is a hotel, blacksmith shop, butcher shop, and farm-implement manufactory and sale depot.

CONCLUSION.

It is the prond boast of the residents of Sonoma that they have the finest county in the State. To prove that claim, they point to the fact that they have never had a failure of crops; to their climate; to the superiority of their vineyards, producing annually two and a half million gallons of wine; their table grapes, stone and seed fruit, vegetables, potatoes, corn, cereals, and blooded livestock; their lumber, their mines, their railroads which bear these varied products of the soil to a ready market; to their bay and seacoast front, which renders a monopoly to transportation impossible; their schools, and churches, and thriving towns; their mineral springs, their unrivaled scenery, their redwood forests, their fertile valleys and lofty hills.

We have outlined the county of Sonoma from the Valhalla to the Huichica, and from the Estero Americano to its northeast corner in the Mayacmas range, and reluctantly bid the reader good-bye.

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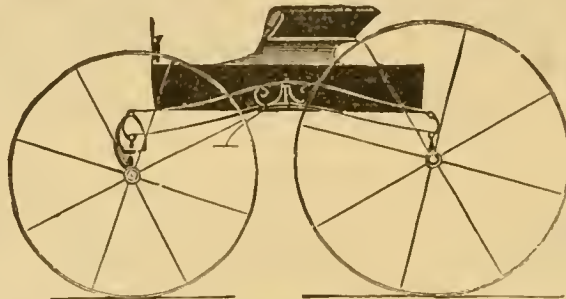
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OF SONOMA COUNTY and RUSSIAN RIVER.

SUNDAY EXCURSIONS.

ENJOYMENT, RECREATION AND PLEASURE.—Trees 300 feet high; Shady, Cool and Pleasant; Every facility for Picnics; Good Hunting and Fishing. All aboard for the Redwoods!

Ticket Office, Market Street Wharf.

General Office, 426 Montgomery Street.

A. HUGHES,
Gen. Manager.

A. A. BEAN,
Superintendent.

P. E. DOUGHERTY,
Gen. Pass. & Ticket Agent.

MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

OF PETALUMA.

Incorporated.....July 19, 1870.

Number of Members Limited to.....2,000
Present Membership.....1,209
Assets July 1st, 1877.....\$35,045 35
Benefits Paid up to July 1st, 1877..... \$56,381.00
Dividend Paid July 1st, 1877.....\$2,770.00
Dividend to each Member.....\$5 00 \$6.00 and \$7.00

ONLY 34 DEATHS IN SEVEN YEARS.

OFFICERS.

L. F. CARPENTER.....President.
E. NEWBURGH.....Vice-President.
G. R. CODDING.....Secretary.
JOHN S. VAN DOREN.....Treasurer.

DIRECTORS.

L. F. Carpenter, George Harris, John Cavanagh, W. P. Rutherford,
F. W. Shattuck, E. S. Lippitt, E. Newburgh, William Camm,
G. R. Coddington, A. H. Dreese, D. W. C. Putnam, H. A. Lynch.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The object of the Association is to secure pecuniary aid (of \$2,000) to the families or dependents of deceased members. This we accomplish in the most perfect and substantial manner, as has been proven in the past few years, and that, too, with an expense so light, that it has proved not to be a burden to its members, which not only increases its popularity, but brings it within the reach of those most needing its benefit and aid.

Any person, male or female, may become a member, if in good health and over eighteen and under fifty years of age.

Each member pays, according to age, four to ten dollars annually, and one dollar on the death of any member.

On proof of the death of a member, his family, or the person he has appointed, receives immediately from the Association \$2000, or a like proportion to the number of the members if not filed.

All surplus shall be loaned, on good and sufficient security (real estate), to form a "permanent reserve fund," the interest on which annually reverts to members in the form of dividends.

In case of death, we send a notice to each member. We shall have agents in each town, to receive the assessments and save members the trouble of sending direct to the Secretary.

The Association, as well as its funds, is under the control of a Board of twelve Directors, who are elected annually by the members of the Association, and is also incorporated under the Beneficiary Act of the State, which Act does not allow any funds used for purposes other than set forth in the Rules and Regulations, while the Secretary and Treasurer are required to give heavy bonds for the faithful performance of their duties.

The officers and directors of the Association receive no compensation whatever for their services, except the Secretary, who is simply paid for keeping the books of the Association.

All members will be allowed the same interest on money standing to their credit that the funds of the Association draw, and can deposit such amounts as they may desire as advance payments, or as an endowment fund for future years, without risk or forfeiture, whether one or more deposit.

The Association is designed to save money, not to spend it. None will feel poorer for belonging to it, while many bless the day their father, mother, husband or brother joined it.

Do not confound us with life insurance. We are a "Protective Association." We do business in a different way—in part for the same purpose, but for one-third the expense to members, who receive all the benefit.

Further particulars of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary in person, or by letter. Office in Derby's Building, corner Main and Washington streets, Petaluma.

G. R. CODDING, Secretary.

HARNESS SADDLES

Cannot be made better, or bought cheaper, than are sold by

GWIN & BRAINERD,


Wholesale and Retail Dealers in all kinds of Harness and Saddlery Goods.

Buying our goods direct from manufactories in the East has enabled us to successfully compete with all others.

We keep a complete assortment of HILL'S CONCORD HARNESS, also do all kinds of Carriage Trimming. We invite at all times a careful examination of our stock.

GWIN & BRAINERD,

Washington St., Petaluma.

 Awarded First Premium by Sonoma and Marin District Agricultural Society 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876.

PETRIFIED FOREST

CHARLES EVANS, Proprietor.

THE PETRIFIED FOREST

LIES HALF WAY BETWEEN

MARK WEST HOT SPRINGS

AND

CALISTOGA,

SONOMA COUNTY.

It can be reached by Stage on arrival of trains at Santa Rosa, Fulton or Calistoga.

DO NOT FAIL TO SEE THIS WONDERFUL FOREST.

For full description, see "PETRIFIED FOREST," in descriptive matter of Sonoma Co.

SKAGGS' SPRINGS.

THESE CELEBRATED SPRINGS are on the line of the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad. Trains connect at Geyser-ville with stages for Skaggs' Springs every day.

Elegant Baths of Hot Sulphur Water of Delicious Temperature.

Comfortable Cottages, Pleasant Walks, and Fine Drives. Health, Pleasure and Recreation can all be had at Skagg's Springs.

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Real Estate Agent,
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PETALUMA.

Property Advertised and Sold on Commission.

FARMS FOR SALE AND TO RENT.

**Rents Collected, Loans Negotiated, and a General Real Estate and
Commission Business Transacted.**

For Information in relation to SONOMA COUNTY FARMS or
PETALUMA CITY PROPERTY, apply to

N. W. SCUDDER,
McCune's Block, Petaluma.

**J. P. CLARK'S
POPULAR LINE OF STAGES**

MAKES DAILY TRIPS TO

CALISTOGA

BY WAY OF

**Mark West Springs and Petrified
Forest,**

RETURNING EVERY AFTERNOON TO SANTA ROSA.


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REAL ESTATE BROKER,

Notary Public & Conveyancer,

SANTA ROSA.

 Buys and Sells Real Estate on Commission. Articles of Agreement and Legal Contracts drawn. Loans negotiated. Farms and Town Lots, improved and unimproved, for sale in all parts of the county.

New-comers, buyers and sellers, are respectfully invited to call at my office. Every facility afforded purchasers to see property.

GRAND HOTEL,

MAIN STREET, SANTA ROSA.

NEECE & POOLER, - - Proprietors.

ONE HUNDRED ROOMS,

LARGE SIZE, WELL VENTILATED, AND ELEGANTLY
FURNISHED.

This Hotel is at Santa Rosa, in the midst of one of the most lovely and charming Valleys in the world. The climate is remarkable for its uniform temperature, its salubrity, and immunity from drouth, as over eighteen inches of rain have fallen in this Valley during the season beginning with October, 1876, and ending with March, 1877.

This Hotel will be conducted as a first-class house in all respects, and its tables supplied with the choicest meats and viands.

MEALS, 50 CENTS.

ROOMS, 50 Cents to \$1.00 per diem.

HISTORICAL
AND
DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH
OF
SONOMA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA,

BY
ROBERT A. THOMPSON,

EDITOR OF "THE SONOMA DEMOCRAT."

PHILADELPHIA:
L. H. EVERTS & CO.

1877.



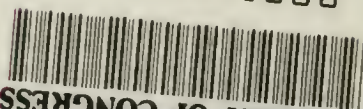
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